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Portugal
Post Report

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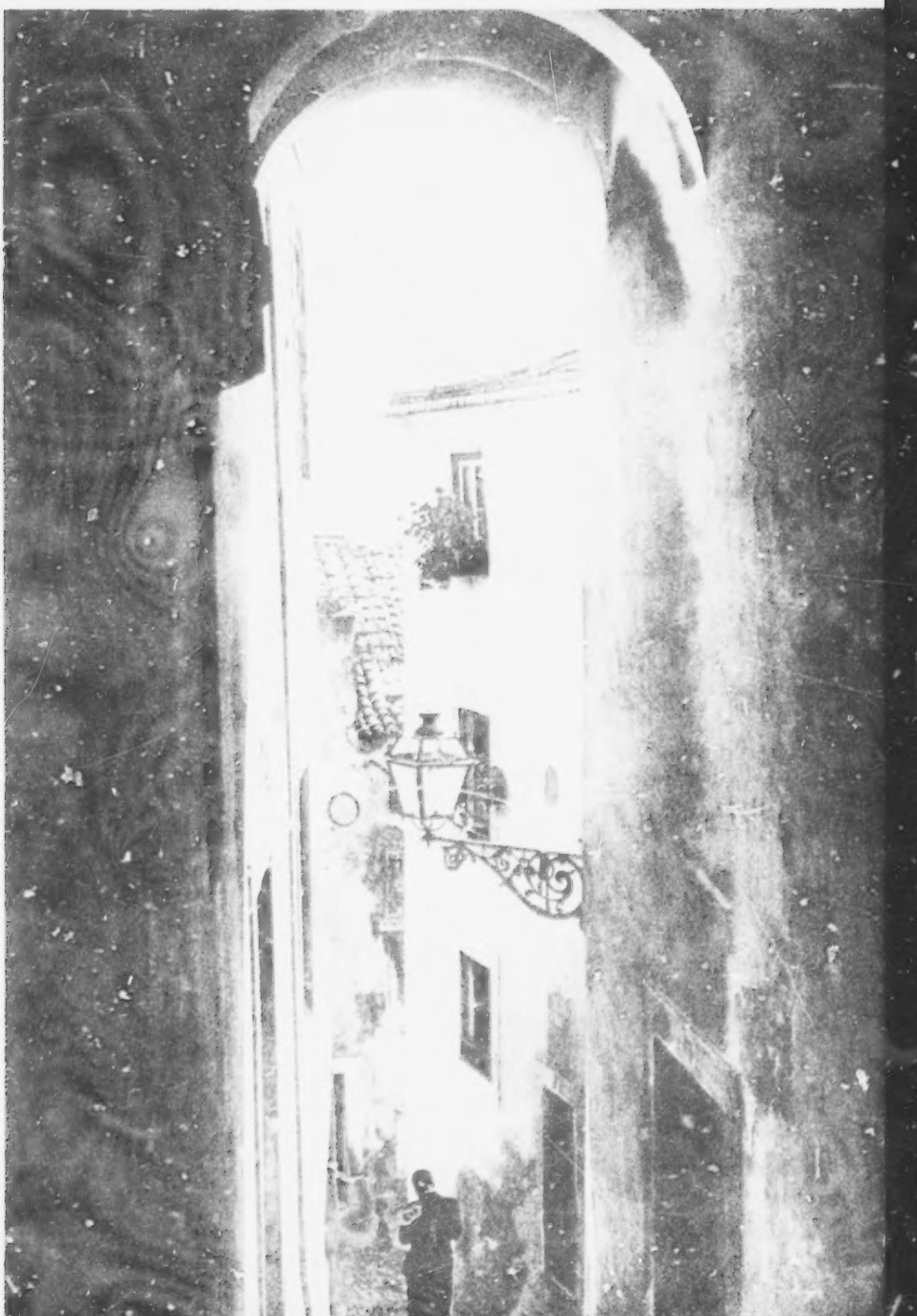

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This is the official post report prepared by the post. The information contained herein is directed to official US Government employees and their families. Any other information concerning the facts as set forth herein is to be regarded as unofficial information.

Cover: The charm of Alfama, one of Lisbon's oldest sections, is depicted in its narrow, winding streets.

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The Host Country

Area, Geography, and Climate

Portugal, in Europe's southwest corner, is part of the Iberian Peninsula. The country consists of continental Portugal, the Madeira Islands, and the Azores in the eastern Atlantic.

Temperatures are pleasant, seldom above 90° F (32.2° C). Summers are sunny and generally cool at night. Winds increase late in the day. At times the prevailing north wind dies down altogether, giving way to short periods of dense fog along the Costa do Sol and in Lisbon. Spells of intense heat are infrequent and last only a few days at a time. Summer rainfall is minimal.

From October to May or early June, rain is frequent and sometimes heavy. Atlantic southwesters assail the coast. Average annual variations are considerable. Years of relative drought alternate with years of serious, nationwide flooding. Snow caps the highest mountain ranges in midwinter, providing some skiing in the Serra da Estrela. Lisbon's winter temperatures seldom drop below 40° F (4.4° C).

Population

Continental Portugal has a population of 9.8 million. More than 600,000 former residents of Angola, Mozambique, Timor, Cape Verde, and Goa (Portugal's former overseas territories) live in Portugal. American residents—numbering some 11,700, plus 430 US Government employees and dependents—are found mainly in the Lisbon area, the Oporto district, and in the Algarve Province of southern Portugal.

Tourism is a major industry. More than 6 million tourists visited Portugal in 1980, some 135,000 of which were American.

English and French are the most widely spoken foreign languages. Many Portuguese understand Spanish, but few speak it. If you speak Spanish, learning Portuguese can be frustrating because of differences in pronunciation. But, the two languages are similar in structure and vocabulary.

Tiled buildings and narrow alleyways reflect Portugal's Moorish heritage.

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Public Institutions

Portugal is one of Europe's oldest independent nations, tracing its history to the 12th century when it became a kingdom following victories over the Castilians and Moors. In the 15th and 16th centuries, Portuguese navigators led the way in overseas exploration, establishing an empire in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The Portuguese monarchy lasted until 1910, when it was overthrown and Portugal was proclaimed a republic. Sixteen years later a military coup handed dictatorial power to Dr. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, a law professor who served as Finance Minister and later Prime Minister. Marcello Caetano followed Dr. Salazar as Prime Minister from 1968 to 1974.

On April 25, 1974, the Armed Forces Movement, formed by young military officers, overthrew the Caetano regime. Although the period which followed was marked by considerable instability, progress was made in restoring individual and political rights. Free elections were held for a Constituent Assembly in April 1975, and for the Legislative Assembly in April 1976, and again in October 1980.

Arts, Science, and Education

Portugal's culture reflects its rich historical heritage—a blend of Western European, Mediterranean, and North African values. Portuguese art has found expression in architecture, especially during the "Manuelino" period—the 1495–1521 A.D. reign of King Manuel—and in epic and lyric poetry.

By law, all Portuguese children must attend 8 years of primary school. The number of public schools is increasing. Students who qualify academically and financially may seek admission to state or private secondary and vocational schools. Diplomas from such schools are necessary for admission to one of the three state-run universities or technical institutes.

Commerce and Industry

Agriculture and forestry, where productivity tends to be low, are the country's basic economic activities, engaging about 33% of the population. Some 30% of Portugal's land area is cultivated with thousands of vineyards and olive, fig, and almond groves. Portugal's port and Madeira wines are world famous. Other crops are wheat, corn, rye, tomatoes, rice, potatoes, and fruit. The forest area comprises another 35% and includes extensive acres of cork, maritime pine, and eucalyptus. Portugal is the world's foremost cork producer, supplying about 50% of world cork products.

The industrial sector accounts for 35% of the gross national product GNP, with an annual growth rate of about 12% until 1975 and 1976, when it dropped.

Sardines, anchovies, and tuna are caught along the 500-mile coastline; a large part of the catch is canned for shipment abroad. An ocean fleet fishes for cod in the North Atlantic.

Textiles, cork, and wine are leading exports. Remittances from Portuguese emigrants and tourism earnings constitute the two major sources of foreign exchange.

Transportation

Automobiles

An automobile adds greatly to your enjoyment of the country. The countryside is beautiful, roads are narrow but fairly good, and distances are relatively short. A car also makes it easier to see nearby Spain. Compact four-door cars, with low gas consumption, are most practical, and a wider market exists for resale of small cars.

Popular cars in Portugal are Fiat, Ford Granada assembled in Portugal, Citroen, Peugeot, Toyota, Renault, Datsun, and Morris-Mini. Automobiles with diesel engines are appearing more frequently, especially Mercedes-Benz and Peugeot models. Little difficulty should be anticipated when importing these popular makes, although spare parts can be difficult to find.

Recently, US personnel have had little success in purchasing, at diplomatic rates, cars assembled in Portugal. Some have been able to purchase cars from departing personnel or from diplomatic representatives in Spain and elsewhere in Europe.

New US cars generally operate well in Portugal with minimum repair and maintenance. It is expensive to repair American cars. Parts are generally unavailable locally and must be ordered from the US. Bring extra fan belts, spark plugs, and oil filters, as well as essential replacement items the dealer may recommend.

The Portuguese Government requires third-party liability insurance of $15,000. However, it is recommended that official American personnel carry unlimited third-party coverage and comprehensive insurance. Local insurance rates are high, so many employees buy insurance from US companies. However, find one that provides coverage in Portugal and has a local agent in Lisbon. Recommended by the Embassy are Phoenix and Royal Exchange. Driving is hazardous and the accident rate is high.

Oporto. An automobile is most desirable in Oporto. Compact, low-priced cars with standard gear shift are best, given service limitations and narrow roads. Tax-free gasoline coupons are available through the Embassy co-op. General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler have dealers and repair specialists in Oporto, but spare parts are often difficult to find. The range of European automobile agencies and services is normal.

Hertz and Avis have car rental agencies in Portugal. Rates are based on vehicle size, weekly or daily rental, mileage, etc. Some Portuguese rental agencies have lower rates.

Bring a valid drivers license from the US or another country. A free Portuguese license may be obtained upon presentation of a valid license in about 6 weeks. In the interim, you may use a US license.

The Automovel Clube de Portugal is reliable. The club provides cutrate touring and emergency assistance services, access to its special dining room, and a monthly automobile touring magazine.

Ponta Delgada. A small car is recommended because of the narrow streets. Most roads are made of cobblestones and are hilly and winding, limiting speed and distance driving.

Consular personnel may obtain a Portuguese drivers license through the Embassy. The Embassy will also aid American personnel in obtaining international drivers licenses. Obtaining a Portuguese license yourself is expensive and complicated. The Consulate handles car registration.

The Lajes PX can supply some accessories such as headlights, tires, and batteries. Some small American cars, built under shared specifications by GM and Ford, can be repaired by dealers selling British and German models of such manufacturers. Foreign automobiles with American specifications present the same maintenance problems as American cars. Mechanics are unfamiliar with emission systems required by US law. Repair facilities are available for European cars, but parts are seldom available.

See also Customs, Duties, and Passage.

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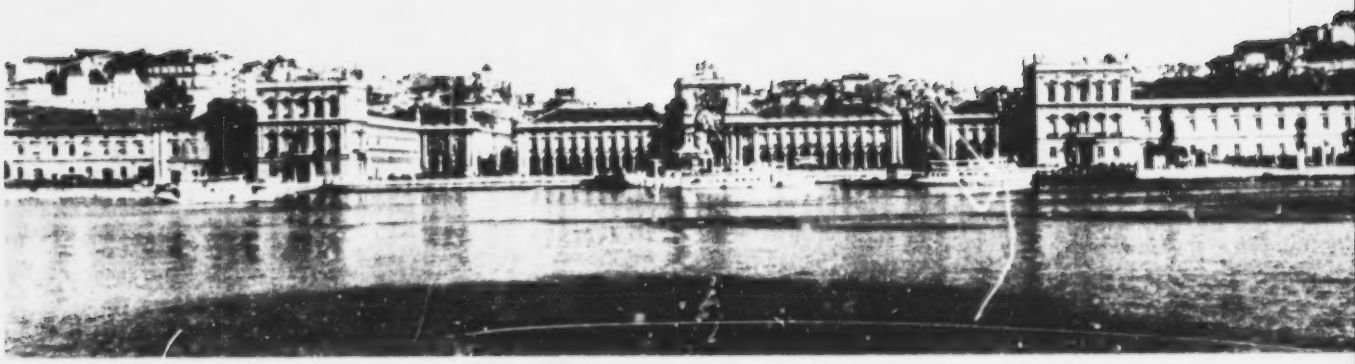

Terreiro do Paco, Lisbon.

Local

Lisbon. Lisbon has a fair municipal transport system, and fares are reasonable. Except for the small subway system, public transport is slow. But using it avoids parking problems in town. The subway is modern, but covers only a small part of the city. Taxis are inexpensive and usually available except during rush hour and rainstorms. Interurban electric trains serve the Lisbon-Estoril-Cascais coastal area where many Americans live, as well as Lisbon-Sintra. They are inexpensive but crowded during rush hour. The Lisbon terminals are not convenient to the Embassy. However, the Embassy operates morning and evening shuttles.

Oporto. For local transportation Oporto has good bus services, and a wide network of streetcars is reliable but slow. Taxis are plentiful and inexpensive. Trains out of Oporto north to Spain (Galicia) and south to Lisbon provide a pleasant view of the countryside.

Taxicabs within the city seldom cost more than 80¢. A 10% tip is customary. Night service is available only until midnight and is more expensive. Bus service also is available.

Regional

Lisbon. From Lisbon, railroads and buses connect to all parts of Portugal and, despite several recent fare increases, are still reasonable. Two daily trains, overnight and dayliner, connect Lisbon with Madrid. Service is also available to Paris. Train service to all of Europe can be made from Madrid and Paris. Within Portugal, the only recommended train trips are Lisbon-Oporto. Several good express trains operate daily and a triweekly express services the southern Algarve from Lisbon. "Auto-express" for your car is available on Lisbon-Oporto passenger trains.

TWA has daily flights between New York and Lisbon between March and October and twice a week during the rest of the year. Lisbon is serviced by major airlines linking Portugal with major world capitals. The national airline company of Portugal, TAP (Air Portugal), has daily flights between Lisbon/New York as well as daily flights to Oporto and Faro. TAP also has an air-taxi service with small aircraft connecting smaller cities to Lisbon Domestic air fares are high by US standards.

No American passenger ships call at Lisbon.

Oporto. Oporto can be reached by private car, rail, or plane. If feasible, plan a brief stop at the Embassy in Lisbon en route to post. Air travel to Oporto is normally through Lisbon, from which connecting flights service London, Geneva, Frankfurt, Caracas, Brazil, and Funchal. Four daily flights connect Lisbon and Oporto.

Ponta Delgada. SATA, the local airline, flies daily between the islands of Santa Maria, Sao Miguel, Terceira, and Faial. It also goes to Flores once a week. Flights are almost always full and should be booked early. The other islands can be reached only by ship. A passenger ship goes around the islands every 2 weeks, docking when weather permits. In winter, bad weather often delays sailings. The ship does not have stabilizers and is recommended only for good sailors: Sea travel can be quite uncomfortable.

Lisbon is the closest large city. Portugal's national airline is the only authorized airline for domestic flights between the Azores and Lisbon. Service is also available from Lisbon to Santa Maria and Terceira.

Communications

Telephone and telegraphic circuits are available to Europe and almost all points of the world. International telegrams can be sent from home phones or from a local post office; domestic telegrams can be sent only through local office facilities. Most telephones in the Lisbon area are now automatic, and direct-dial is available to most of Western Europe and from some exchanges to Brazil and the United States. The Embassy number is 57 01 02. Telex number is 12 528.

Ponta Delgada. The houses of both the principal officer and the vice-consul have telephones. Only Lajes AFB has English-speaking phone operators. Telephone calls to the US are routed through Lisbon. Connections are slow and not always audible.

Lettergrams to the US of up to 22 words cost about 6¢ per word and take 1–5 days to arrive. A regular telegram costs about 60¢ a word.

Mail and Pouch

Mail to and from the US can be sent via pouch, international mail, or APO. International mail and APO are equally reliable, but APO is more practical for packages.

Surface mail is slow. Airmail letters from the US by international airmail normally arrive in 8 days but often take longer.

Addresses for open and international mail are:

Lisbon
Name
American Embassy
Avenida Duque de Loule 39
1098 Lisboa Codex

Oporto
Name
American Consulate
Rua Julio Diniz 826, 3°Dto.
4000 Porto Codex

Ponta Delgada
Name
American Consulate
Apartado 209
9502 Ponta Delgada
Sao Miguel Acores

Official personnel may use APO facilities for sending and receiving personal letters and packages. Packages cannot exceed 100 inches in length and girth combined or 70 pounds.

Postage rates are the same as US domestic rates. APO parcel post goes by air even though surface rates are paid. APO pickups and deliveries at the Embassy are made daily, except on weekends and holidays. The Lisbon APO address is:

Name
American Embassy
APO New York 09678

Ponta Delgada. If possible, send packages via APO and insure them. Packages sent through regular international mail may take months to arrive and are subject to high customs duties unless the Embassy obtains a free-entry permit for the item.

Diplomatic and surface pouches are carried by the same military Airlift Command planes that carry most APO mail. Twice a month the Consulate picks up classified pouches and registered APO mail at Lajes AFB. Unclassified pouches are sent via international mail. Unclassified mail from Lajes arrives once a week via SATA, the local airline. Outgoing APO mail is delivered to Lajes during the twice-monthly trips.

APO rates are the same as US domestic rates. APO parcel post goes by air even though surface rates are paid. Parcels are limited to 70 pounds and 100 inches in length and girth combined.

The APO address is:

Name
American Consulate
APO New York 09406

Radio and TV

Lisbon. Radio reception is fair to good depending on set and location. US radios can be used with a transformer. Reception of European stations is usually clear at night; foreign broadcasts (French, Spanish, British, German, etc.) can be received on shortwave. USICA provides VOA shortwave schedules. Local AM/FM stations operated by the State Broadcasting Service (RDP) and the Catholic Station (Radio Renascenca) provide news, local sports coverage, and popular and classical music. The one state television network, RTP, has two channels. Television is in color. Generally, the first channel operates from 7 pm to midnight with some afternoon programing, and the second (UHF) channel from 8:30 pm to midnight, except in summer. All foreign shows, except for a few designed for children, are in the original soundtrack with Portuguese subtitles.

American TV's will not operate here without expensive rewiring. European sets can be purchased at the American PX in Spain. Imported sets avaiable locally are quite expensive.

Ponta Delgada. Sao Miguel TV operates from 7 pm to 11:30 pm during the week; weekends include some afternoon shows. About 50% of the programs are in Portuguese and the rest are in English, Spanish, German, and French with Portuguese subtitles. The American station at Lajes AFB does not produce a signal strong enough for reception in Sao Miguel; TV sets modified for European transmission are sometimes available at the base exchange.

Newspapers, Magazines, and Technical Journals

Lisbon. An English-language newspaper, the Paris edition of the *Herald Tribune*, is available within 1 or 2 days of publication. Many newsstands carry American and British news magazines at prices much higher than domestic rates. The USICA library across the street from the Chancery offers a selection of American books and magazines. A few local bookstores stock books in English, but at higher than US prices.

Oporto. The Paris *Herald Tribune*, *London Times*, and other English-language newspapers are available at many newsstands about 1–3 days after publication. Three Portuguese dailies carry normal wire service news.

Ponta Delgada. The Consulate receives various periodicals. The Paris *Herald Tribune* arrives 5–15 days late. Lajes AFB carries a selection of magazines and newspapers. Three Portuguese-language dailies and two weekly newspapers are published in Ponta Delgada, but coverage of international news is limited.

Health and Medicine

Medical Facilities

Lisbon. A Foreign Service regional medical officer stationed in Lisbon has an office in the US Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) building. The Embassy circulates a list of English-speaking physicians in various specialties as well as a list of hospitals, clinics, and laboratories in Lisbon. Charges vary widely, but basic medical and dental fees are about the same as in the US. Local pharmacies are stocked with European pharmaceuticals, but not all American drugs are available. Also, medicines are expensive locally and employees should bring a 6-month supply of any regularly used prescribed drug in addition to establishing an account with a US pharmacy for refills.

Generally speaking, the quality of medical services available in Lisbon is poor. Hospitals are underequipped and in some cases poorly managed. Overcrowding is a serious problem and the quality of nursing care is substantially below that in American facilities. However, some private Portuguese hospitals are generally satisfactory for minor, uncomplicated medical and surgical procedures. These hospitals are also utilized by some Americans for obstetrical care.

All US Government employees and dependents may use the USAF hospital facilities in Torrejon, Spain. Torrejon is about a 10-hour drive or a 1-hour flight. Dental facilities are not available to nonmilitary US Government employees. Orthodontia is limited to a few dentists who will maintain but not initiate complicated orthodontic treatment. Children who have started programs under US orthodontists sometimes go to Madrid for continuing treatment. Expenses for these trips are high and must be borne by parents.

Oporto. Leading Oporto medical specialists are good. Consultation and treatment are also available at the USAF hospital in Torrejon, Spain. Several private and public hospitals are well

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equipped. Embassy Lisbon periodically furnishes the post with vaccine for inoculations. Medicines are expensive and special prescription medications should be brought from the US periodically. Certain medical cases, after consultation with Torrejon, may be referred to US military hospitals in Germany.

Ponta Delgada. Good medical and surgical facilities, including English-speaking general practitioners and one dentist, are available in Ponta Delgada. Specialists include pediatricians, obstetricians, and gynecologists. Two clinics have 15 to 30 beds, and the local hospital with 300 beds is adequate, but not up to US standards. There are three medical laboratories. Local pharmacies stock American, Portuguese, and German drugs. Recently, pharmacies have had problems in obtaining some medicines. Oculists in Ponta Delgada can prescribe eyeglasses but few grind lenses. Americans assigned to the Consulate may use faciiities at the modern USAF hospital at Lajes. Extremely serious cases are evacuated to the Army hospital at Frankfurt. Dental work can also be done at Lajes.

Ponta Delgada's damp climate stimulates frequent respiratory ailments. Sinusitis and bronchitis occur throughout the year. Common colds are frequent during winter. Individuals with arthritic or rheumatic conditions are also affected by the dampness.

Community Health

Meat markets are seldom inspected. Fish, bread, and milk are hawked through the streets or delivered to homes with few or no sanitary precautions. New stores have refrigeration facilities. A mild form of typhoid is common, as are dysentery, measles, chicken pox, whooping cough, and flu.

Oporto. Sanitation is generally good in residential districts and fair in the city's poorer sections. Tapwater is considered safe but not very palatable.

Ponta Delgada. Sanitation in the Azores is poor. The local public health department guards against the spread of communicable diseases through inspections, quarantine, and fumigation. Garbage is collected at homes regularly by city workers.

Preventive Measures

Some health precautions are recommended such as the use of boiled or bottled water, soaking of fresh vegetables, and maintenance of an up-to-date immunization record. The following immunizations, although not required, are recommended by post and may be obtained in the clinic: gamma globulin, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, typhoid, and oral polio. Yearly TB tine tests are recommended. Due to the normally mild climate, houses are not insulated and tend to become damp and drafty during extended rainy seasons. This may account for a slight rise in sinusitis sufferers and common colds.

The prevalence of tuberculosis dictates caution in selecting maids or nurses to care for children. Unrefined olive oil commonly used in Portugal is hard to digest. Pasteurized milk, Vigor or UCAL, is considered safe. Untreated milk is not, because bovine tuberculosis and brucelosis are endemic. Close watch must be maintained over sanitary conditions in homes that employ servants.

Although water supplied to Lisbon is adequately treated, the distribution system is old and in poor repair. Therefore, tap water should **not** be considered safe to drink but should be first boiled for a minimum of 10 minutes. The high mineral content of tapwater may cause digestive upsets. Good, bottled spring water is available.

Obtain typhoid and smallpox shots before coming to post. Have children inoculated against diphtheria shortly before departing for Ponta Delgada. Serums for various inoculations, including gamma globulin, may be obtained at the USAF hospital at Lajes.

The damp, chilly winter weather aggravates rheumatism, sinusitis, and bronchial troubles. Vitamins are recommended, especially for children. The calcium content of dairy products is said to be low because of the absence of lime in volcanic soil. Despite poor health conditions, have no fear for your or your family's health. You may have brief bouts of upset stomach and diarrhea until you adapt to local foods and water. Many staff members drink water from the tap with no ill effects. Ordinary sanitary precautions make local meats, fruits, and vegetables safe for consumption.

Dress warmly during winter, particularly indoors, to avoid respiratory ailments. Make sure your servants have a medical examination with an X-ray before you hire them.

Employment for Spouses and Dependents

Some job opportunities exist for spouses in Lisbon. One secretarial position in the Embassy is filled by an American spouse, and from May through September the Consulate usually has several job openings. In Lisbon the Embassy Community Liaison Office (ECLO) position is available for spouses on a yearly contract basis.

A registered nurse works full time in the Embassy health room providing immunizations, paramedical care, and liaison with US doctors at Torrejon, Spain on other medical problems. The Department of Defense—DAO, MAAG, and the US Support Unit at Iberlant—has employed American spouses in regular and part-time Civil Service positions.

A few American spouses have found employment as school teachers in the private schools around Lisbon. The American Language Institute, operated under the auspices of USIS, also employs spouses as English teachers. Navy Exchange has two positions which may be filled by spouses.

Dependents 16 years and over may be employed in summer help programs. Chances for spouses and dependents to find employment are difficult. However, it is wise to check with the Embassy Community Liaison Office. The Portuguese Government does not issue work permits.

Oporto. The American Language Institute as well as the British School may offer employment for spouses as language teachers. The Consulate can occasionally offer temporary positions. In general, employment opportunities are limited.

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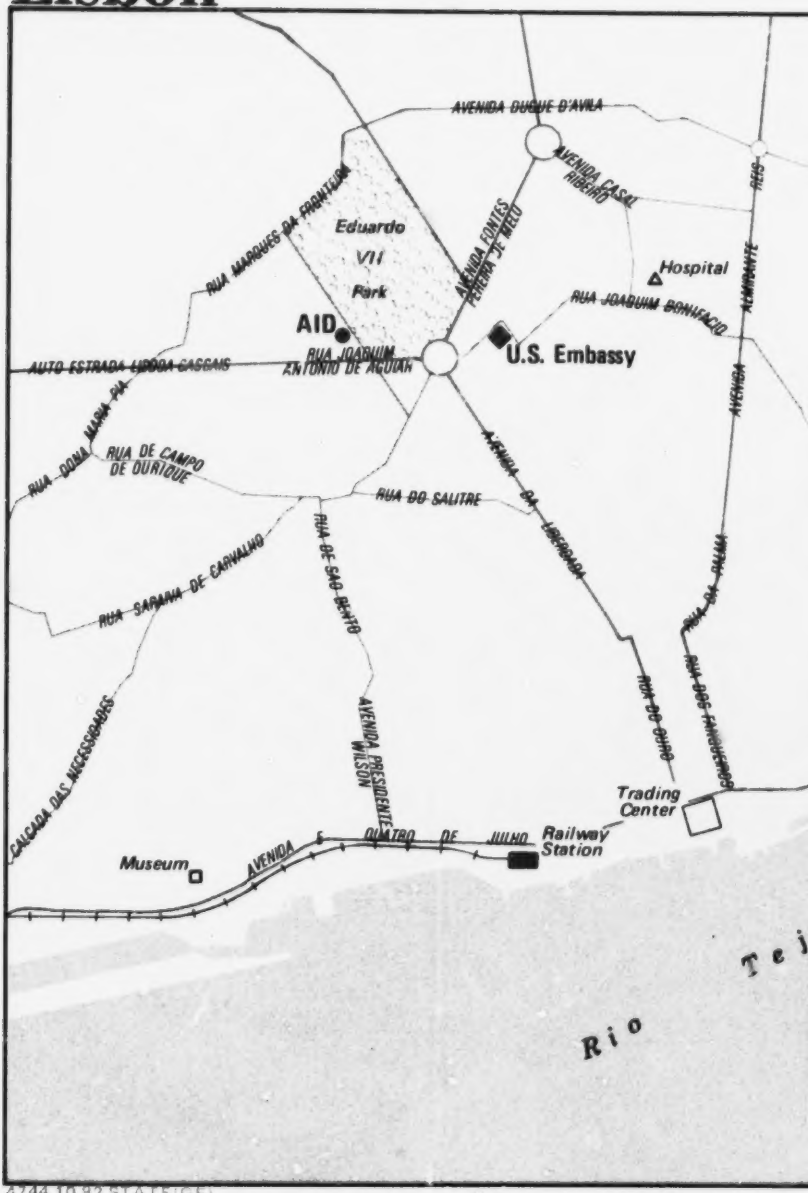
Lisbon



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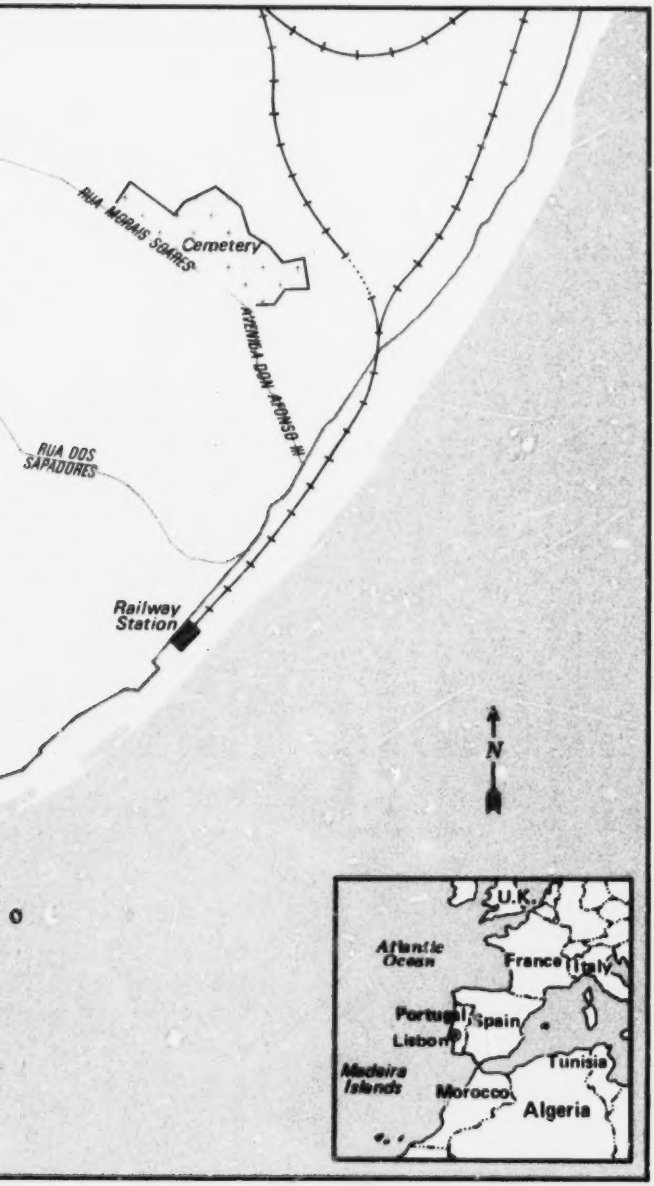

American Embassy

Lisbon

Lisbon stretches over several hills on the north side of the Tagus ("Tejo" in Portuguese) River. The city faces south across one of Europe's finest bays toward the Arrabida mountain range about 25 miles. The bay's entrance is spanned by Europe's longest suspension bridge—the April 25 Bridge—with a main span of 1,108 yards.

Lisbon contrasts old, narrow alleyways and tiled buildings that reveal its Moorish heritage with broad, modern boulevards, new apartment buildings, and parks. The city's architecture complements the natural beauty of its setting.

With a population of 1.5 million, Lisbon is the administrative, commercial, and cultural center of the nation. From 8 am until 8 pm traffic is heavy and somewhat disorderly in town, and it is hazardous at all times along the coastal road leading to the suburbs.

Situated on the Rio Tejo, Lisbon is Portugal's administrative, commercial, and cultural center. This view shows Eduardo VII Park and Pombal.

The Post and Its Administration

The Embassy Chancery is at Avenida Duque de Loule 39, telephone 57 01 02. A new Embassy building is under construction and should be ready by late 1982. USIS, FAS, and Defense attaches (Air, Army, and Naval) occupy offices in the Chancery, an aging, converted apartment building. The USIS library is in an office building directly across the street from the Chancery. The Agency for International Development (AID) has offices at Rua Castilho 165, 2d floor, phone 65 06 62 (Mobil Building). The US Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) is at Rua Pau de Bandeira 11, phone 66 41 01, a small palace which was the German Embassy until the end of World War II. The MAAG building, one block from the Ambassador's residence, includes the APO and the US Navy Exchange Commissary. NATO's Iberian Atlantic Command (COMIBERLANT) is located at Oeiras, about 10 miles west of Lisbon along the coastal road to Cascais. The US Navy maintains a small technical installation, NERRA (Naval European Repair and Rework Activity), at Portuguese air base Alverca, about 20 miles northeast of the city (phone 258 07 71). Alverca provides aircraft maintenance and repair facilities for several NATO countries.

The total Mission staff, including the attached agencies, numbers some 115 Americans and 133 local employees.

Embassy office hours are from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Lunch hour is from 1 pm to 2 pm. The Embassy is closed on all US national holidays and most Portuguese holidays.

New personnel are met and assisted through customs by Embassy representatives. Downtown hotels and the Chancery are 20–30 minutes from the airport or train station. Inform the administrative officer as early as possible of your travel plans and of any special circumstances affecting travel or accommodations.

The Embassy's American and local employees in the Lisbon area are paid through the Regional Administrative Management Center (RAMC), Paris, which also maintains leave records. RAMC allowances and salary payments are paid in one consolidated dollar check.

After arrival, arrange to have part or all of your salary and allowances check mailed directly to your US bank for deposit. Payrolling from Paris will not start until you arrive in Lisbon. Arrange disposition of your salary checks by your previous post pending transfer of the pay record to Paris.

Each adult family member over age 14 will need four 1½" x 2" photographs for Portuguese identity cards. These and other photographs are needed for drivers licenses and can be made in Lisbon.

A snackbar in the Chancery serves hot lunches, snacks, and beverages.

Housing

Temporary Quarters

Due to the housing shortage, expect to spend at least 8 weeks in temporary quarters. Because temporary quarters are sometimes difficult to arrange, inform the post as early as possible of estimated arrival date and temporary housing preferences.

The Employee Cooperative Association leases a few apartments available to transients. However, the number of apartments is limited and the post cannot guarantee assignment.

Housekeeping apartments also are available. The better ones are some distance from town but near public transpor-

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The US Embassy in Lisbon is at Avenida Duque de Loule 39.

tation. These include 15 apartments in the Hotel Cidadela, Cascais, 50 minutes from the Chancery by commuter train, and the Hotel das Arcadas, Estoril, 45 minutes from the Chancery by commuter train. These and others are within walking distance of markets and shopping centers and provide modest kitchen facilities, heating, and maid service. Good restaurants also are nearby. Lisbon's hotels are not especially suitable for families with young children. Although hotel rooms are within the temporary lodging allowance, meals and extras can be expensive. Pensions are less expensive, usually serve wholesome meals, and can arrange babysitting and other special services. The York House, Pensao Americana, and Pensao Nazare are in town.

A few downtown hotels are within easy walking distance of the Chancery. Recommended hotels are the Tivoli Jardim, Tivoli, Altis, Embaixador, Florida, Dom Carlos, Ritz Hotel, Hotel Sheraton, and the less expensive Capitol.

Permanent Housing

The Ambassador's residence is a four-story house with a large garden in Lapa, Lisbon's best residential area, on Estrela Hill overlooking the Tagus. The house has high ceilings throughout, three salons, a dining room that seats 20, four bedrooms, an upstairs family room, four complete bathrooms, several lavatories, two cloakrooms, elevator, kitchen, service pantry, servants quarters, laundry, garage, swimming pool, tennis court, and bathhouse with sauna and showers. The house includes all necessary household items. Bring personal items such as pictures, bric-a-brac, and objets d'art. Large wall spaces are throughout the house.

The DCM's home is a large, fully furnished, relatively modern house in the Restelo residential district, 30 minutes by car from the Chancery. The house consists of basement with garage, central gas heating system, maids quarters, and storage rooms. The first floor has two living rooms and hall, dining room (seating 12), veranda, kitchen, pantry, and guest bathroom; the second floor has five bedrooms and three complete bathrooms; and the third floor has a family room with an excellent view of the river. The house also has a side yard and a barbecue area in the back. Bring ample pictures, bric-a-brac, and objets d'art.

The Embassy has leased 10 apartments for employees: 7 one-bedroom, 1 two-bedroom, and 2 three-bedroom of which one is unfurnished. They are supplied with basic furniture, carpets, draperies, stove, refrigerator, and washing machines. The apartments, in a modern apartment building 5 minutes from the Chancery, have central heating, hot water, comfortable living/dining room combinations, average-size bedrooms, generous closet space, and a splendid view of the city.

Before shipping household effects to post, communicate with the administrative officer to ascertain if you will be assigned to government quarters and, if so, whether furnished or unfurnished.

Suitable quarters in Lisbon and the suburbs are hard to find, especially for employees with children. Finding a house of

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search, and exploitation of personal contacts. House and apartment rental costs are rising.

Older apartments and houses often lack built-in closets, shelves, cabinets, adequate heating system, electric fixtures, or bathroom accessories (medicine cabinet, mirror, towel racks). Unfurnished dwellings rarely include a stove or refrigerator.

Because of the absence of fixtures and the many charges incidental to moving in, expect to spend $200–$1,000, plus the cost of accessory appliances brought from the US. For example, butane gas suppliers require a signed contract for use of company equipment (hoses, valves, etc.) with a deposit that decreases in value by 10% each year.

Furnished apartments or houses are equipped with furniture, fixtures, small stove, and small refrigerator. Many lessors will not remove their furnishings. Others may store excess pieces on the premises or in commercial storage, the latter sometimes at the tenant's expense. Furniture is likely to be bulky. These quarters do not include central heating in the rent. Other utilities will be charged separately on an individual meter system.

Leases are usually payable 2 months in advance. Thereafter, payments are made monthly. Lease terms generally are for the duration of the employee's tour of duty. A diplomatic clause allowing you to terminate the lease on 30 days' notice in the event of transfer is usually acceptable to lessors.

The Ambassador's residence (above) and the DCM's home are fully furnished. The Ambassador's residence is located in Lapa residential area, overlooking Rio Tejo. The DCM's home is located in Restelo residential area, about a 30-minute drive from the Chancery.

Furnishings

Bring furniture unless you have been assigned to government quarters. Buy upholstered chairs, pillows, cushions, bedsprings, and mattresses in the US. Excellent Portuguese crafters can make some wooden items to your specifications. Work may take months to complete and it is expensive. Selection of functional furniture and housewares is limited. Most of these items are imported and very expensive. World-famous Portuguese "Arraiolos" rugs start at about $160 per square meter. They can be made to order in about 3–6 months.

Fabric selections, domestic and imported, are good but expensive, and styles and colors are limited. Upholstering and

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broidered Madeira table linen is as expensive in Lisbon as in New York City. Portuguese linens and towels of medium quality can be bought locally at prices higher than those in the US. Fine quality chinaware, crystal, and silverware is made in Portugal. Locally produced plastics and aluminum (e.g., pots and pans) are of excellent quality and inexpensive. Purchase other kitchen utensils in the US.

Utilities and Equipment

Unless quarters already have telephones installed, and depending upon location, delays of a few months to as much as a year are not uncommon.

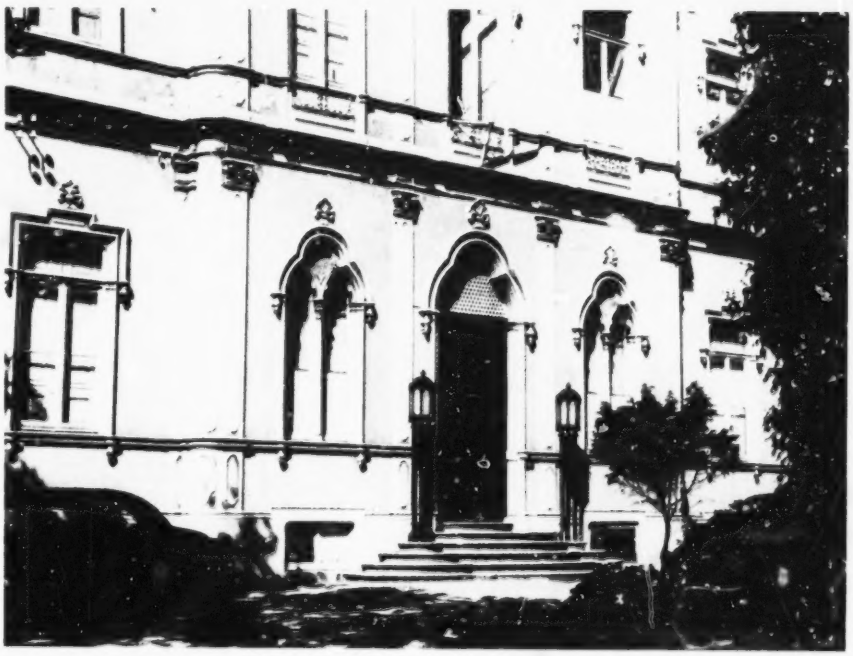
Electricity is 220v, 50 cycles. Transformers, required for 110v appliances, are expensive. If you plan to lease unfurnished quarters, bring a gas stove, electric refrigerator, washer, dryer, and freezer. A gas stove should be set for bottled gas. The post attempts to provide appliances; however, availability of appliances must be confirmed before arrival. Freezers, electric blankets, vacuum cleaners, floor polishers, and other appliances are useful.

Electric clocks, clock radios, and most electric timers will not operate properly on 50-cycle current. Phonographs, tape recorders, and electrically timed washers can be adapted to 50 cycles.

Adaptation should be made, if possible, in the US, because technical service for US-brand appliances is poor.

Round prong plugs and outlets are standard in Portugal. Conversion plugs are available locally and at PX's. Few Portuguese homes have proper wiring for 3-phase electrical appliances such as dryers. Installation of special wiring may cost over $500. Bring a 220v, 50-cycle, 2-phase dryer. US TV sets must be modified to receive local broadcasts. The modification, done locally, is expensive. US manufacturers now produce sets especially for use in Europe, and good sets are available locally through the Navy Exchange.

The following makes of appliances are sold and serviced in Lisbon: General Electric, Westinghouse, Frigidaire, and Philco. Repair facilities for electrical appliances are poor. Few dealers carry parts for heavy American appliances. Gas appliances, in contrast, can be readily repaired. Bring a parts manual for all appliances to facilitate ordering from the US. Natural gas in Lisbon and butane or propane gas in the suburbs are the most common cooking fuels. Gas is much cheaper than electricity. Electric hot water flash heaters commonly used here are the "geyser" type. A medium-size heater costs about $160.



USIS has a Cultural Center (above) in Lisbon. The US Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) building (below), located one block from the Ambassador's residence, houses APO offices and the AID commissary.

Food

Food is usually available in ample variety and quantity but is subject to periodic shortages. Fruits and vegetables are excellent in season. The supply of frozen foods is limited.

Local and imported canned goods are available, although American brands cost more than in the US. Pork, lamb, and fish products are particularly good; beef is also available. Lobster and shrimp are excellent and quite expensive. Oysters are unsafe. Pasteurized milk is sold in Lisbon and environs, with house delivery through delicatessens (mercearias). Seasonal milk shortages occur both in Lisbon and the suburbs causing some families to rely on powdered milk. Long-life milk, which lasts 3 months and does not require refrigeration, is available in local stores. Other dairy products are generally available with the exception of cottage cheese, buttermilk, and sour cream. Good bakeries and

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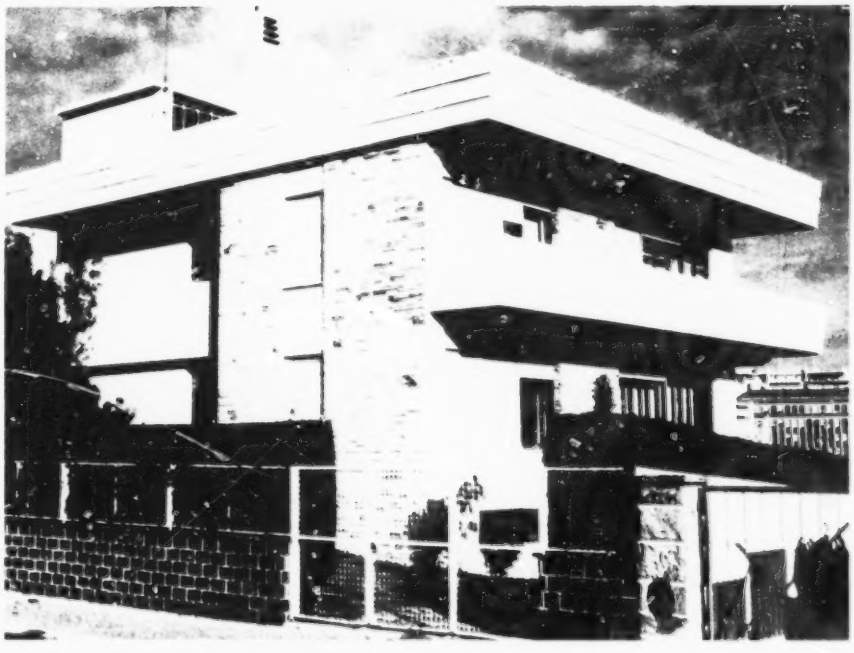
able. A number of supermarkets are found in Lisbon and the suburbs, and many neighborhood grocery stores are located throughout the city. Portugal's coffee is excellent, although expensive.

The post has a medium-size Navy Exchange located in the MAAG building. The commissary stocks 800 items, including an adequate variety of baby foods, cereals, canned foods, frozen meats and vegetables, condiments, household items, alcoholic beverages, and cigarettes. Essentially, the exchange supplements the local market.

Two major US military establishments in Spain are within driving distance of Lisbon: Torrejon Air Force Base, Madrid (10-hour drive) and Rota Naval Base in Southern Spain (11-hour drive). Both have PX facilities. Rota also has a recreation area which caters to US military and civilians, particularly those serving in northern Europe. PX's carry basic hardware, appliances, toiletries, clothing, stationery, toys, photography equipment, and sporting goods.



Typical Lisbon housing includes the USIS Public Affairs officer's residence (above), and this attractive home.

Clothing

Wear summer clothing from May or June to September; fall-weight clothing from October to April. Topcoats and warm raincoats are worn in winter. Sweaters and woolens are needed indoors in winter because homes are often poorly heated. Warm sleepwear and slippers are needed as well. Raincoats, rainhats, and umbrellas are used often. Slacks and slack suits are popular and are seen frequently on the streets. Bikinis are also quite popular on the beach.

Formal attire can be rented or tailored here at a reasonable price.

The Ambassador and DCM or spouses of these officers need black tie or a long dress.

Men. Medium- and light-weight clothing is generally suitable. Although not yet common, wash-and-wear summer suits are becoming more popular in Lisbon. The city has many tailors, some quite good.

Buy underclothes, shoes, hats, and accessories in the US or by mail order for APO delivery. Tuxedoes are worn, although not required at the Marine Ball and other occasions. White dinner jackets are rarely seen. Most evenings are cool, even in summer. If you already own these items, you may want to bring them. You can wait until you have settled in to determine what formal attire you may need.

Women. Bring woolen dresses or suits for winter wear, washable summer dresses, cocktail or dinner dresses, a light coat or stole for spring and summer evenings, heavier coats or a fur jacket or stole for winter, and rainwear. Fall- and summer-weight suits are useful. Readymade clothing is of good quality but expensive and likely to be shortwaisted. Good boutiques offer attractive suits, coats, dresses, and evening apparel. Bring one long dress. Sizes larger than 12 are hard to find. Some women have clothes made by a dressmaker or by a sewing woman in their homes. If you have a sewing machine, bring it. Dress materials and woolens made in Portugal are sold at medium to high prices. Imported materials are expen-

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and selection is limited. Patterns are old in Portugal.

Attractive accessories (leather hand-, gloves, belts, and scarves) are sold easonable prices. Portuguese women om wear hats. Fishermen's sweaters good buys, as are ultrasuede dresses. g an ample supply of lingerie and kings from the US.

Readymade shoes for women are eas- obtained, but European lasts differ American. Narrow widths and large s are rarely found. It is possible to have om-made shoes ordered here in sizes 8, and leather is the rule, not the ex- ion. Most American women buy their s in the US or order them through the . If you wear a large size shoe, bring od selection. Size 9 and larger are al- t impossible to buy in Portugal.

Even good shoes do not last long in on; chipped marble-block sidewalks ard on shoes. If you expect to walk a bring comfortable, broad-heeled, rub- oled shoes. Sidewalks can be slippery nany streets are uneven and steep. ts, popular with Portuguese women, be a warm addition to your winter lrobe during the cold, rainy winter. A er pair costs about $75.

Bring sports clothes such as bathing and tennis and golf outfits from the

dren. Good quality readymade cloth- for children is sold in many stores. Ex- to pay somewhat more than US es. More rely on mail-order catalogs or trips to the PXs in Spain. Unless you are easily able to take advantage of the PXs, bring a full supply of play clothes, shoes, diapers, and baby clothes. Children's everyday shoes made here are of good quality. Several shops make good, reasonably priced orthopedic shoes for simple corrections.

Military. Normal business is conducted in civilian clothes, except for IBERLANT personnel, who wear uniforms during working hours. Uniforms are frequently worn by Defense Attache's Office (DAO) and MAAG officers at official functions and social affairs. Occasionally, working uniforms are needed for field trips. DAO and MAAG enlisted personnel seldom wear uniforms, but minimum requirements should be available. Black dinner jackets are a must for DAO officers and desirable for others. Mess dress is worn a few times a year. Do not depend on the exchanges in Rota and Torrejon to have uniforms and insignia items in stock.

Supplies and Services

Supplies

A broad selection of toiletries, cosmetics, and home remedies is available in Lisbon. US products not sold in the commissary are expensive and limited. Although European brands dominate, the commissary does carry a limited stock of American brands. A wider choice is offered by the PX's in Spain. Bring favorite brands, particularly baby supplies, from the US. Disposable diapers are normally available in the exchange but they can also be bought in local stores. Include a supply of greeting cards, wrapping paper, and ribbons in your effects.

Basic Services

Drycleaning is adequate; laundry and pressing are usually done in the home by servants. Several self-service Laundromats, which include drycleaning machines, now operate in Lisbon, Estoril, and Cascais. Several shoe repair shops provide good quality work. The work in most shops is quite satisfactory and prices are generally below US charges.

Domestic Help

Domestics are still available in Portugal. However, most servants do not live in but are accommodating when asked to babysit or help at an evening function. Most Embassy personnel have domestic help 2 or 3 days a week, depending upon family size and requirements. At the post orientation program, employees and their dependents are given up-to-date information regarding minimum wage, insurance, and laws regarding the employment of domestic help. The Personnel Office provides information on local labor laws and customs for employing domestic servants.

Servants should have preemployment medical examinations because of the high incidence of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis. It is also recommended that the Embassy Security Office be requested to do a local police check on any domestic servant employed. The maid should register before starting to work.

American Cultural Center Library, Lisbon.

Religious Activities

Irish Dominican priests hold English-language Roman Catholic services in Lisbon, Carcavelos, and Cascais. An interdenominational American Protestant church in Lisbon also holds English-language services. An Anglican church in Lisbon and an Anglican-rite church (not formally affiliated with the Church of England) in Estoril sponsor an American Episcopalian Sunday school. Evangelical, Baptist, and Seventh-day Adventist missionary groups with headquarters in the Lisbon area are Portuguese oriented. A synagogue is conveniently located in Lisbon's Lapa section.

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Education

Dependent Education

At Post. No US Government-operated schools exist. The American Language Institute administers aptitude and college entrance exams in the Cultural Center opposite the Chancery. The Embassy Community Liaison Office (ECLO) can provide you with additional information about schools.

The American International School is a privately owned school which offers a curriculum based on the American school system. The school has about 250 students. Grades 4–12 are located in Carnaxide; K–3 attend in Monte Estoril. Teaching methods are American. Pupils entering high school should bring a transcript of grades and courses taken in the US, as well as final or interim report cards. The school year, divided into three terms, corresponds roughly to the American school year. The school provides bus service from most of Lisbon, Estoril, and Cascais. Uniforms are not required. Total costs for education are within post allowances. This school is not accredited in the United States.

St. Dominic's School is an Irish Dominican Roman Catholic school. The school has modern installations and is located near Carcavelos. It accepts pupils from kindergarten through grade 10 regardless of religious affiliation. Many Americans as well as other nationalities attend, with enrollment at about 310. Small classes are maintained. Texts and classroom methods are a mixture of English and American. Bus service is available. Uniforms are required. Costs are within allowances.

St. Julian's School, the "English School," is located in Carcavelos. The curriculum, based on the Cambridge General Certificate of Education system, is designed to prepare students to enter "public school" in the UK. Boys and girls are enrolled from kindergarten through the equivalent of grade 11. Students over age 15 are not accepted. About 650 students of many nationalities attend, the bulk in the lower grades. The school has both English and Portuguese sections. The school year (three terms) starts in early September and ends in mid-July. Both summer and winter uniforms are required. No bus service is available. Costs are within post allowances.

The French Lycee, subsidized by the French Government, has an excellent scholastic reputation in Lisbon. It has French and Portuguese sections with about 2,000 students. Knowledge of French is required for admission. Partial bus service, within Lisbon proper, is provided. Costs are within allowances.

Saint Anthony's International Primary school is a privately owned school based on the American curriculum. The school has an enrollment of about 54 and accepts ages 4–11. The school has modern installations and maintains high standards. No transportation is provided. Costs are within post allowances.

Mrs. Shannon's School is located in Cascais. It is a small, privately owned school and follows the Montessori method. The school accepts ages 4–8. Grades are not separated. Enrollment is limited. No transportation is available. Costs are within allowances.

Special Educational Opportunities

Portugal has three classic state universities (Lisbon, Coimbra, and Oporto), four private universities in Lisbon and Oporto, plus two technical institutes and several teacher-training colleges. Courses last 5 or 6 years, study is divided into theory and practice. Instruction is entirely in Portuguese. The Universities of Lisbon, Coimbra, and Aveiro provide courses for foreigners in Portuguese literature, history, and philosophy. Credits earned here cannot be transferred to an American university and vice versa.

Post Orientation Program

All new arrivals are met and assisted in locating quarters. An information folder, containing background material on Portugal and information on everyday life, is supplied upon arrival. The Embassy offers classes in Portuguese. All personnel are encouraged to attend, including spouses. The Defense Attache's Office also has limited classes for DAO personnel. Private tutors are available and the many language institutes in the Lisbon area offer classes.

Recreation and Social Life

Sports

Lisbon and vicinity offer a variety of spectator and participant sports. These include soccer, tennis, golf, squash, riding, swimming, sailing, fishing, hunting, and softball. Even though the sea near Lisbon is cold and rough, wind surfing, water skiing, and scuba diving are popular sports.

Touring and Outdoor Activities

Sightseeing trips and organized tours are plentiful and costs are moderate. Portugal operates state inns called "pousadas," most of which are excellent, fairly inexpensive, and located near places of interest. Lisbon has lovely tree-lined and flower-filled parks, numerous children's playgrounds, a fine small zoo, botanical gardens, an aquarium, museums, galleries, cathedrals, palaces, and castles. The Royal Coach Museum has the finest collection of royal and state coaches in the world. Campgrounds in the pine-covered hills of Monsanto Park just outside Lisbon have tennis courts, swimming pool, hockey field, a clubhouse with a restaurant/snackbar, hot water, and automatic washers. It is open all year. Other campgrounds are at Oeiras, Setubal, Guincho, and Caparica.

Atlantic Ocean temperatures north of Lisbon seldom rise above 60°F, and summer months can be quite windy. Carcavelos, Estoril, and Cascais have good protected beaches, but, because of nearby sewage disposal systems, bathing there is not recommended. Extensive beaches are found farther west and north of Lisbon (Guincho, Praia Grande, and Praia das Macas) and 5 miles southwest across the Tagus River (Caparica). Some beaches have dangerous undertows with crosscurrents, along with superb surf. Arrabida, 25 miles south of Lisbon, has a protected beach where the water temperature rises slightly above 60°F as summer progresses. The Algarve waters in southern Portugal are warmer. Cabanas can be rented by the hour, day, or longer.

Several hotels on the Costa do Sol near Lisbon have large fresh or saltwater swimming pools which nonguests may use for a fee. Several municipal pools, including Monsanto, offer season tickets .The Sheraton Hotel has a heated outdoor swimming pool, which is open year round.

The Belas section of the Lisbon Sports Club (15 miles north of the city) is similar to a country club. It has a swimming pool, a 14-hole golf course, small clubhouse with a restaurant serving full meals and snacks, fine cricket pitch, and four well-kept tennis courts. In addition, the Carcavelos section of the club has one court opposite the Carcavelos train station.

The Estoril Golf Club, formerly one of the best in Europe, has an 18- and 9-hole course and a pleasant clubhouse which serves full luncheons, snacks, and drinks. Diplomatic personnel are exempt from the initial membership fee, but pay

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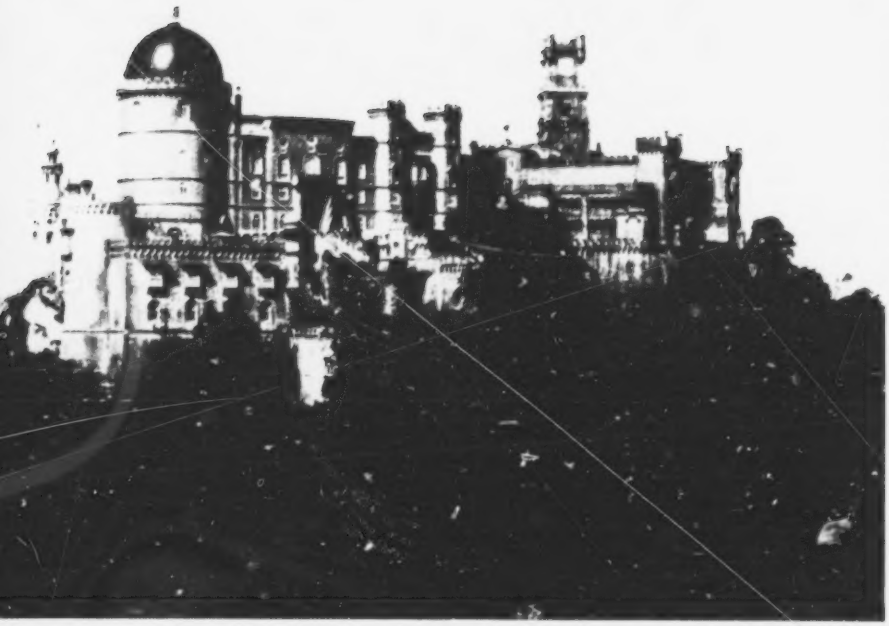

Sintra is noted for its scenery celebrated in *Childe Harold* by Lord Byron. Pictured is Pena Palace.

annual dues and other fees. Nonmembers may pay to play at any time. Bring golf equipment and attire from the US. Golf shops have a good selection of items but prices are higher than in the US.

The Tennis Club of Estoril has seven clay courts. By paying a fee, nonmembers may play if courts are available. The National Stadium has 19 excellent public tennis courts. Monsanto has municipal courts. Tennis balls are sold in the Navy exchange.

Lisbon, Estoril, Cascais, and Marinha have riding stables. Instruction is good. A pool, restaurant, tennis courts, and clubhouse are at the Marinha facility, plus they have a play area for children. Bring or order riding clothes and equipment from the US.

The Sheraton Hotel operates a Health Club which charges an annual membership fee. This entitles members to use the sauna, sunlamp, exercise classes, and swimming pool. Whirlpool bath and massage are available for an additional fee. The Health Club is open daily and is within walking distance of the Embassy.

Monsanto Park has a good private trap and skeet club. Public hunting for small game is widely available but poor in quality. See Notes For Travelers, Firearms and Ammunition. Substantial saltwater fishing is nearby. Farther from Lisbon is good freshwater bass fishing and fair trout fishing in mountain streams.

Skiing is sometimes possible in midwinter in the Serra da Estrela, about 250 miles northeast of Lisbon. Boots, skis, and poles can be rented. Better skiing is in the Province of Granada, Spain.

The Naval Club at Cascais offers waterskiing. Some yacht clubs rent ocean-going sailboats, with one or two crew.

Entertainment

Movies are a favorite form of entertainment among Portuguese, rivaled only by TV and sports events. Current and older American, British, French, Italian, German, and Spanish films are shown, usually in the original language with Portuguese subtitles. Purchase tickets in advance, particularly for weekends or holidays.

The opera season starts in midwinter and runs about 15 weeks. Operas are performed in Italian, German, French, and Portuguese.

Professional theater performances, usually original works by Portuguese playwrights, are in Portuguese. Some plays feature translations of well-known foreign works. An international amateur group, the Lisbon Players, dedicated to English-language theater, gives several performances each year.

Concerts and recitals are performed at the Gulbenkian Foundation, local cinemas, the National Theater, and occasionally in the cathedral. Music festivals and open-air concerts are sometimes given in parks or historical sites. The US Government sponsors performances by American artists, as well as exhibits and lectures on subjects of current interest. Some US Government programs are sponsored jointly with the Gulbenkian Foundation.

The National Ballet company presents classical and modern ballet. Usually a foreign company visits annually. Ballets are given at the Gulbenkian, the Coliseum, and the Sao Carlos Opera House. The Gulbenkian has its own ballet company.

The bullfight season runs from Easter to about the first of October. Portuguese bullfighting is a demonstration of equestrian skill. It differs from the Spanish in that it is mostly on horseback and the bull is not killed in the ring. Fights are usually on Thursday nights at the Campo Pequeno bullring in Lisbon. Fights also take place at the large bullring in Cascais.

Fine restaurants in Lisbon and its environs serve both international cuisine as well as famous Portuguese national dishes. Many Chinese restaurants are in Lisbon. Dining out is one of the national pastimes. Restaurants offer varying price ranges, but prices are generally less than for comparable restaurants in Washington, DC. A service charge is included in your bill, but it is customary to add a 5%–10% tip for service. Lunch is served from noon to 3 pm, and dinner is served from 7 pm to 10 pm.

In the Alfama and Bairro Alto, the older sections of Lisbon, the "fado" is sung in many little restaurants. The "fado" is to Portugal what the blues are to America. The songs are haunting in tone and tragic in theme. Performances begin about 10 pm.

Nightclubs vary in quality. Discotheques ("boites") have become popular. The Estoril Casino features a floor show and licensed gambling. Hotels and tourist agencies provide a full listing of restaurants, nightclubs, and entertainment schedules.

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Social Activities

Among Americans. Two organized American clubs, the American Women of Lisbon and the American Club of Lisbon are active. The latter includes most of the American business community and is open to US Government personnel. Associate membership is available to non-Americans in both clubs, and both have monthly luncheons with featured speakers.

International Contacts. Among the several active men's clubs in Lisbon are the Gremio Literario, the Turf Club, and the Circulo Eca de Queiroz. In the latter two clubs, membership is controlled by special invitation and is virtually unobtainable. The Rotarians, Lions International, and other similar groups meet regularly. Americans are welcome in these clubs.

Secretaries from the diplomatic missions and foreign business establishments hold periodic dinners and lunches. An informal association of diplomatic officers holds monthly luncheons and occasional dinner dances for diplomats below chief of mission level.

Official Functions

Nature of Functions

The Ambassador and the DCM have moderate to heavy social obligations. Section chief responsibilities are moderate. Representational activities for other officers depend on requirements of their position.

Officers with diplomatic status should bring an initial supply of 100 calling cards. Engraved or printed cards are acceptable and can be obtained in Lisbon. Engraving is not necessary since most Portuguese officials and many foreign diplomats use printed cards. Nonofficer personnel have no official need for calling cards.

Monument to the Discoveries.

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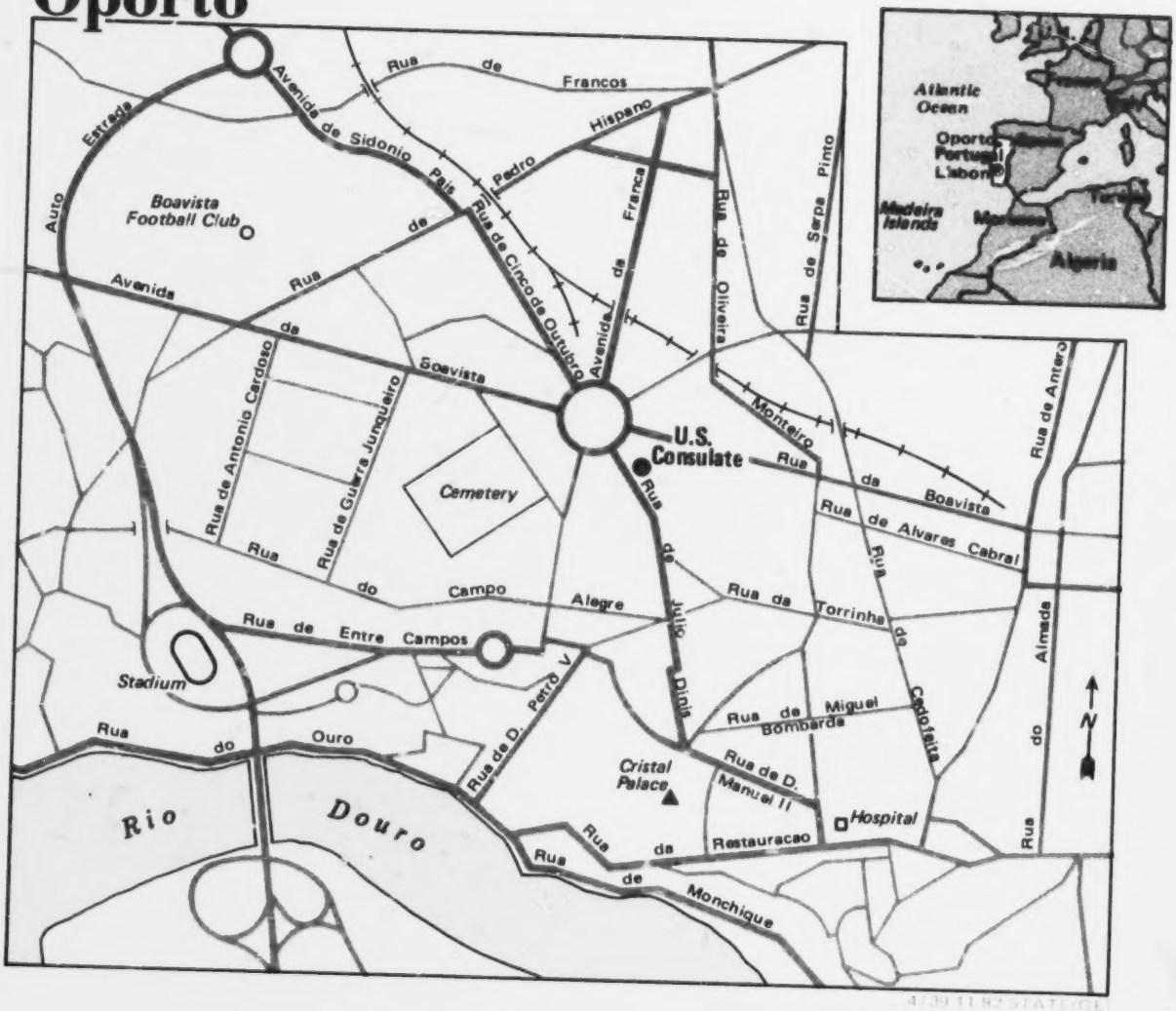
Oporto



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Consulate

Oporto

Oporto, situated at the mouth of the Douro River some 213 miles north of Lisbon, is Portugal's second largest city and the seat of an important administrative district. According to the 1970 census, Oporto had 310,437 people and the greater Oporto area had 808,627.

The Oporto consular district has a high concentration of Portuguese commerce, industry, agriculture, educational facilities, and centers of religious thought. It has a great many famous historical sites and cities, artistic monuments, attractive towns and villages, and varied scenery. More than half of Portugal's 9.5 million people live in the Oporto consular district.

The temperature of Oporto's coastal area varies moderately between a mean maximum of 74.5°F (23.6°C) and a minimum of 59°F. In summer, it seldom reaches 80°F, and in winter it seldom drops below freezing. Frosts are fairly frequent from December to March.

Oporto winters, though comparatively mild, require heating and warm clothing. The dampness is penetrating, as are the north and east winds. Private homes, schools, and public buildings often lack central heating and can be uncomfortably cold. During the frequent, prolonged rainy spells, mildew can be a problem for stored clothing.

The Post and Its Administration

The Consulate's jurisdiction covers roughly half of the country, providing the small American staff with a large assortment of Foreign Service activities. All types of consular services are performed. The Consulate emphasizes commercial and trade promotion activities and participates with USIS Lisbon in frequent cultural presentations.

The American Consulate at Oporto is in a six-story building at 826 Rua Julio Diniz (third floor), in the center of an expanding commercial, professional, and banking district. It has a large Consular Section, an Administrative/Cultural Section, and a Commercial reading room. Telephone numbers are 63094/6 and 69008.

Office hours are 8:30 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm. The office is open to the public from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm and from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except on US national holidays and Portuguese legal holidays. Addresses and telephone numbers of American officers are posted on the office door on the third floor. An automatic telephone answering service also provides this information during off-duty hours.

The permanent staff consists of two Americans, a principal officer and a consular officer, and 13 local employees. An additional American officer is presently assigned on a rotational basis from the Embassy. The Department of Commerce and USIS are represented by local employees.

Clerigos Tower is the landmark of the city of Oporto.

Housing

Temporary Quarters

Adequate temporary housing is available. Families with children often prefer the Residencia Vice-Rei, across the street from the Consulate. The Vice-Rei has no dining room. The Hotel Porto-Atlantico, also near the Consulate, offers first-class accommodations and nearby restaurants.

Hotel rates run from about $20 minimum for a double room at the Residencia Vice-Rei to $100 at the luxury-class Infante Sagres Hotel. Food at most hotels is satisfactory.

Permanent Housing

The US Government leases three permanent living quarters in Oporto. The principal officer's house has 12 rooms, is attractively situated, and has a large garden. Rugs, draperies, and appliances are provided. Sufficient attractive government furniture and a new oil-fired government central heating system are provided. The Department has photographs and floor plans.

Houses and apartments have increased in number and quality in recent years, and rents have risen considerably. The best new dwellings are well appointed, designed with the servant shortage in mind. Some have gardens. A few furnished apartments for small families are now becoming available. Most living quarters are rented without lighting fixtures, stoves, refrigerators, heaters, or other appliances. Some of the major appliances may be provided by GSO. Check with the post before bringing anything.

New housing without central heating usually provides connections for electric space heaters, which tenants must supply. Clothes closets, shelving, bathroom mirrors, towel racks, and medicine cabinets are furnished only in the most modern houses and apartments. Come prepared to pay 2 months' rent in advance. Utility companies and butane gas distributors require deposits for meters and equipment.

Leases are usually written for 1 year, renewable automatically. The law protects tenants against sudden eviction. All leases signed by consular staff should include the "diplomatic clause" providing for termination on 30 days' notice in case of official transfer.

Furnishings

Several stores sell a wide range of locally manufactured furniture, from copies of Portuguese and English antiques to the latest Danish-modern designs. Design and quality can be good, even in inexpensive, unfinished furniture. Oporto and northern Portugal are noted for handcrafted furniture.

A wide range of local rugs and carpeting is available. Linen shops in Guimaraes sell bedspreads and a variety of placemats and tablecloths in modern weaves. Bring towels and blankets from the US.

The historic Vista Alegre china factory, in the Oporto consular district, sells high-quality products throughout the area. Good crystal is also made in Portugal, as is a variety of glassware. Oporto silversmiths are known for fine work and are adept at turning out new pieces or copying existing patterns. Pyrex and similar ovenware is imported and expensive. Glazed terra cotta peasant ovenware is available in great variety.

The American Consulate in Oporto is in a six-story building at 826 Rua Julio Diniz.

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Utilities and Equipment

Electric current is normally dependable throughout the year in Oporto and its suburbs. Bring space heaters and other small appliances, if you already own them, along with transformers to adjust to the 220v, 50-cycle, 3-phase current. Most American appliances for 110v, 60-cycle, AC, if fitted with appropriate voltage transformers, will operate satisfactorily. Any electric timing devices will not. If you are buying new equipment for shipment to post, order 200v, 50 cycle from the manufacturer. Its operation is more efficient than 110v, 60 cycle used with a transformer.

Water level adjustments are desirable on a washer because of low water pressure during the dry summer months. Vacuum cleaners and floor polishers are more convenient also if designed for 220v rather than for use through transformers.

Refrigerator sizes and designs preferred by Americans are still rare and a luxury here.

Central heating, when available, is usually coal in older houses and electricity or oil in the newer ones. Air-conditioning is found only in some large, new office buildings, such as the Consulate premises, and is not usually needed.

American TV sets will not operate here without expensive rewiring. Local TV sets are much more expensive than in the US. Television sets suitable for use in Portugal may be ordered through the Navy Exchange in Lisbon.

Food

One adjustment you must make in your eating habits is to seasonal shortages of fruits and vegetables. Freezers help when certain foods become scarce. Specialty items are difficult to find at any time of the year.

A good variety of fish is sold in northern Portugal. Most common year round are sole, flounder, whiting, sea bass, fresh cod, sardines, and a variety of shellfish. All have become increasingly expensive. Meat cuts offered by local butchers differ from the US variety. Fresh pork, lamb, veal, and beef are available, but expensive. Chicken can be bought ready to cook or alive. Chicken is cheaper than other meats sold in Oporto, but much higher than in the US. Cut-up turkey is also available. A few specialty shops import frozen turkeys from England, canned hams from Denmark, and other delicacies.

Local and imported canned goods are available in grocery and specialty stores. Imported items, in general, are expensive.

Locally canned fruit juices are expensive. Baby foods cost much more than their US equivalents. They are normally stocked only in pharmacies. Standard brand American canned and frozen foods are three times as expensive as in the US. The supply of frozen foods is limited, and imported brands (usually Danish) are preferred. Portuguese coffee, stronger than US, comes in any form, with or without caffeine, and is very good.

The variety of table wines is extraordinary. Port wine is the area's most famous product. Portuguese beer is very good. Most hard liquors are imported. Some local gins and vodkas are moderately priced and good.

The assortment of cheese is limited and expensive. Sliced bread loaves are now available, as are many kinds of pastries.

Small American-style supermarkets are found in the Oporto area.

Restaurants are numerous and generally cheaper than their Washington, DC, counterparts. Most specialize in Portuguese cuisine.

US Consulate employees may use Navy Exchange privileges.

Clothing

Oporto calls for a complete range of seasonal clothing. Topcoats and ziplined raincoats for winter, spring, and fall are essential. Fur coats and stoles are occasionally worn.

Men. Men's clothing suitable for Washington, DC, is appropriate for Oporto. You need not stock up on a lot of hot weather suits, however. Portugal has many excellent tailors, mostly trained in the British tradition. Men wear tweeds, vests, and cardigans in winter.

Haberdashers carry large assortments of shirts, pajamas, sweaters, and underclothing. Several also have excellent tailor service. Prices are often higher than in the US and clothing does not fit as well.

Dinner jackets, preferably black, with appropriate accessories are enough for officers for most occasions. More formal clothes can be rented, but are not necessary. Bring most of your sports clothes. Sports jackets made by good tailors from imported materials are a good buy locally.

Women. In northern Portugal, women's dress still tends to be conservative. Many younger women follow the latest European fashions and wear very stylish clothes. For sports and casual events, ordinary US casual wear is acceptable. Pants and blue jeans are acceptable for going around town, shopping, trips, etc. They are not usually worn for parties or entertaining. Dressy suits or well-cut, afternoon dresses are the rule for cocktail occasions and informal dinners. Long dresses are sometimes worn at semiformal dinners.

The principal officer or the principal officer's wife may need a formal dress several times a year. Long-sleeved evening wear is essential during the cold months. Sweaters are especially handy during the fall and spring. Warm shawls may be worn for dining out or garden parties.

The principal officer's residence is US Government leased.

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Many clothing items, including dresses, are expensive here. Bring them from home or order by mail. Alterations can be easily done. Sewing machines are useful if you sew or employ a seamstress. Excellent cotton and wool fabrics are made and sold in Portugal. British tweeds and Italian silks are imported. All materials are extremely expensive. Wool sweaters, hand and machine knit, are still a good buy.

Bring a good initial supply of lingerie and stockings and set up an American source for reorders.

A good supply of shoes is important because the attractive shoes available locally may not fit American feet. Bring shoes from the US or buy in Spain where exporting companies manufacture to US standards. Many Oporto outlets make shoes to order at reasonable prices.

Excellent leather gloves are available.

Children. Several shops specialize in good clothes, with prices generally higher than in the US. Most schools prescribe uniforms, which can be made locally. American shoes are usually more durable than those available locally. Fairly good orthopedic shoes for simple corrections can be made here.

Supplies and Services

Supplies

The selection of toiletries, cosmetics, and home remedies is large but expensive. The commissary carries a limited stock of American brands. Nearby Vigo, in Spain, is a popular source of good Spanish soaps, colognes, and perfumes. Bring a supply of greeting cards, wrapping paper, and ribbons, since these items are impossible to find in Oporto.

Several fine jewelers repair, design, or copy jewelry. Photographic services are good and abundant, although American developing service by mail may be cheaper. Drycleaning takes about 1 week. Most washing is done at home, but machine and hand laundries are available.

Oporto has many hairdressers. Some are excellent and prices are comparable to those in the US. Men's barbering is one of the real remaining bargains.

Radio repairers, electricians, and garage mechanics are inventive but handicapped by the scarcity of spare parts for American products. Machine shops usually can make any urgently needed part, especially for automobiles. Bodywork on cars is good. Repair work on appliances often depends on parts brought in via APO.

Picture framing is inexpensive and well done, but often takes several months.

Domestic Help

Servants are still available to persons who pay well and provide living and working conditions attractive enough to offset factory or restaurant employment.

Accident insurance coverage for servants is recommended. Employers are legally responsible for all resulting expenses, whether they are surgical, medical, or other. Cost of this insurance, obtainable from local underwriters, is moderate and scaled to salaries paid. All servants must be enrolled in the Caixa de Previdencia, the government social security plan.

Religious Activities

The British Community Church of St. James is affiliated with the Church of England. A resident rector serves as chaplain to the British community. The congregation is predominantly English, but includes Americans, Portuguese, and a sprinkling of other nationalities.

Portuguese Protestant churches in Oporto include Baptist, Adventist, Evangelical, Assembly of God, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Lutheran, this last in communion with the Anglican.

Though the Jewish community is small, it has a large, handsome synagogue.

Education

Dependent Education

At Post. The British community operates a school which accepts American children for regular courses from kindergarten up to grade 12. Its main purpose is to prepare British children for the English public schools. American children who attend are often ahead of their classes in the US in some subjects, largely because of the small classes and individual attention.

Some American parents send their small children to French and German schools. Both accept children younger than does the British school. The French school takes children from kindergarten through grade 4. The German school provides education in German through the "abitur" (secondary school graduation). Oporto has a number of nursery schools which Consulate families have found satisfactory.

Portuguese public schools offer free education through grade 6. Moderate fees, by American standards, are charged for higher grades in public and private schools. Numerous private schools, most operated by Roman Catholic orders, have good reputations. Several excellent nursery schools are also available.

Away From Post. An allowance for school away from post has been established for grades 8–12.

Special Educational Opportunities

The University of Oporto, with faculties of medicine, pharmacy, engineering, letters, sciences, and economics, has no special facilities for foreign students. American students with university background and knowledge of Portuguese have been accepted as special students, but not as degree candidates. The University of Coimbra, 2 hours south of Oporto by car, has special courses for foreign students. Its faculties of law and letters attract foreigners. Transferring credits earned at Portuguese universities to American universities or vice versa is difficult.

The British, German, Spanish, and Italian Governments support or operate cultural institutes in Oporto, with special emphasis on language students. The Instituto Luso-Britanico prepares students for British university examinations, and conducts classes in English. The German Cultural Institute, affiliated with the University of Oporto, offers language and literature classes. Classes in French language and literature are offered at the Institut Francais. All sponsor frequent lectures, art exhibits, and concerts. All have libraries. The British Association's library has a variety of current English books and reference works.

Oporto has a Conservatory of Music and School of Fine Arts. Both accept foreign students. Private painting and music teachers also are available, as are several ballet schools.

Post Orientation Program

The principal officer personally briefs new personnel on general conditions in the consular district and on specific job-related problems. Embassy Lisbon has prepared a summary review of social usage in Portugal that is recommended reading for newcomers. The Consulate has FSI-sponsored language teachers available for those whose language has not reached the S–3, R–3 level.

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Recreation and Social Life

Sports

Spectator and participant sports within easy reach of Oporto include soccer, basketball, roller skating, roller hockey, tennis, squash, hiking, swimming, riding, boating, fishing, and hunting. Beaches are more popular for sunbathing than for swimming because of the low water temperature. Some hotels and private clubs have large pools. There is boating all along the coast.

Trout are fished in some streams. Snipe and quail shooting are fall and winter pastimes. Skeet and trap shooting are also available.

Some bullfights ("touradas") are held in northern Portugal. The tourada during the August Festa da Agonia in Viana do Castelo always draws large crowds. So do the occasional Sunday and holiday bullfights in Povoa do Varzim, a beach resort just north of Oporto.

There is skiing high in the mountains, chiefly in the Serra da Estrela. Better facilities exist in the mountains north of Madrid or the Province of Granada in Spain. Riding is popular and horses are readily available. The Tennis Clube da Foz and the Porto Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club offer tennis, restaurant, and other facilities to members. Membership is available through normal channels. Two golf courses are near Oporto.

Bring tennis, golf, and other sports apparel and equipment. Although available locally, they are expensive.

Touring and Outdoor Activities

Touring, hiking, and picnicking in northern Portugal are delightful. Roman and pre-Roman ruins and interesting buildings, museums, and fine scenery abound.

Plan to cover about one-half to two-thirds of the mileage you could consider normal in the US because of narrow, winding roads. The trip overland to Madrid by way of Ciudad Rodrigo and Salamanca, with time out for lunch, takes at least 8 hours.

Government-built "pousadas" and "estalagens" provide the best hotel accommodations at moderate prices. Restaurants in pousadas and the better hotels generally serve international cuisine and are reliable.

Entertainment

Home entertainment centering around close family life is still dominant in northern Portugal. First-rate restaurants and nightclubs are few. Movies are a favorite evening entertainment. Many are American films. The best films of most nationalities get to Oporto eventually, normally with the original soundtrack and Portuguese subtitles.

The music season in Oporto is getting started again after a 2-year slowdown, promoted mostly through two subscription organizations. The Gulbenkian orchestra and ballet from Lisbon offer occasional performances. The British, German, and French Cultural Institutes and the Ateneu Comercial stage a few musical and theatrical events.

A nighttime view of Oporto's cathedral.

Social Activities

Among Americans. Most Americans in the district speak Portuguese and are US citizens who have returned to their native Portugal. The native-born American community is small, consisting mostly of business representatives.

International Contacts. Social work is a good source of contact for women. The Red Cross, the Ladies' Guild of the Anglican Church of St. James, and many other charitable organizations are open to those interested. Women who know some Portuguese will find volunteer organizations enthusiastic about proffered help. **See also** Sports for clubs that are sources of contact with Portuguese and British nationals.

Official Functions

Nature of Functions

Representational duties in Oporto are heavy. To some extent these can be shared among the Consulate staff. The principal officer is generally expected to accept all ceremonial invitations which the Civil Governor or Mayor accepts. The principal officer calls on the top four authorities—the Civil Governor, Mayor, Military Governor, and Naval Commander—as soon as possible after arrival. Calls on the equivalent officials of the other capitals in the consular district are also required.

Local terms regarding dress often confuse the newcomer. Check the precise meaning if you are in doubt.

Standards of Social Conduct

American personnel are expected to share in attending functions where American presence is desirable. Junior officers have no automatic representational responsibilities, but will be asked from time to time by the principal officer to assist at social functions.

The principal officer and spouse should bring an initial supply of 100 engraved cards. Junior officers, as well, find an initial supply useful. Quality local printing can be depended upon for replacement orders.

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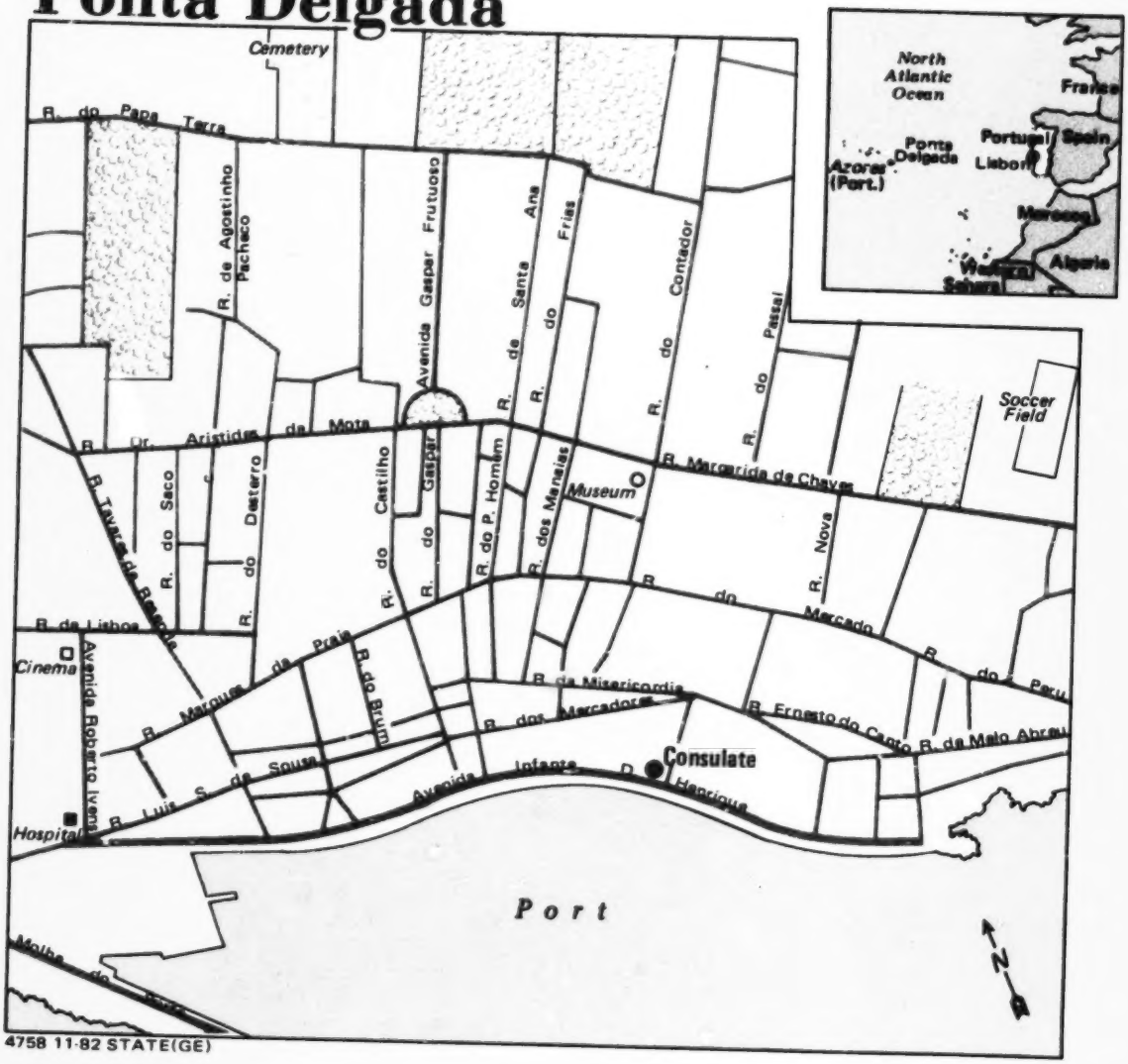
Ponta Delgada



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Consulate

Ponta Delgada, Azores

The Azores archipelago, an autonomous region of the Republic of Portugal, is located in the North Atlantic about 800 miles west of Lisbon and 2,300 miles east of New York City. The Ponta Delgada consular district includes the nine-island archipelago composed of Sao Miguel, Terceira, Santa Maria, Graciosa, Sao Jorge, Pico, Faial, Flores, and Corvo. Total land area is 890 square miles; estimated population is 291,000, about one-half of which is on the island of Sao Miguel. This is the largest of the islands and the one on which the Consulate is located.

The Consulate's jurisdiction over all the islands provides the small American staff with a variety of Foreign Service activities. A broad range of consular activities is performed. People from Portugal, the Low Countries, France, and Spain were among the first settlers; present-day inhabitants reflect their physical characteristics. The islands are of volcanic origin characterized by steep coastlines with occasional black sand beaches. Inland, the terrain is marked by extinct volcanic craters, some with lakes and picturesque hills rising to 3,000 feet. Lush vegetation and, in season, beautiful flowers cover the countryside. The climate is temperate and the Gulf Stream wards off extremes of heat and cold. Temperatures never reach freezing and rarely go above 80°F. However, humidity reaches 80%. June through September is usually good beach weather. Winter days are chilly with high winds reaching gale force. The annual rainfall is 34 inches.

In the past, the Azores were an important port of call for ships bound for the New World and those returning from India. Now, except for the cargo ships which link the archipelago with continental Portugal and the rest of the world, ships stop only for bunkering and emergency repairs. In summer, foreign cruise ships occasionally call for a day at Ponta Delgada.

An important Consulate service is the rendering of administrative support to US Navy and NATO naval ships which call frequently at Ponta Delgada for refueling at the NATO Depot.

The American Consulate in Ponta Delgada is located in a six-story building on Avenida Infante D. Henrique.

The principal economic activity is agriculture. About two-thirds of the land is devoted to pasture. Dairy products account for a large percentage of local income as does cattle breeding. Next in importance are canned fish, milling and feed, bakery products, sugar, tobacco, and wood. Azorean wines from Graciosa and Pico are excellent but insufficient quantities are produced for export. Other than food processing and handicrafts (mainly embroidery, ceramics, and woodworking), the Azores have little industry.

According to the Constitution of April 25, 1976, the Azores are an autonomous region of Portugal and have a parliamentary-style government consisting of

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The principal officer's (above) and vice consul's residences are US Government leased.

a democratically elected Regional Assembly and a Regional Government responsible to the Assembly. The President of Portugal is represented in the Azores by the Minister of the Republic whom he or she appoints.

The Regional Government consists of a President and nine regional Secretaries. Since the Azores have no capital, government functions are divided between the three administrative centers—Ponta Delgada, Angra do Heroismo, and Horta. The Azores are represented in the National Assembly of the Republic by five deputies.

The Chief Commander of the Armed Forces in the Azores with headquarters in Ponta Delgada oversees military operations throughout the Azores and also is the NATO representative in the archipelago. Under the Chief Commander, a captain of the Portuguese Navy supervises the small naval detachment stationed in the islands, and an Air Force Brigadier commands the Air Zone which includes Lajes Air Base. An Army Brigadier is also in charge of the two training regiments and coast artillery.

As a result of a treaty between Portugal and the US, a US military establishment has existed on the islands of Terceira, at Lajes, since the early 1940s. As at most bases, limited medical, educational, shopping, and social facilities are available.

The Post and Its Administration

The American Consulate in Ponta Delgada is located on the first two floors of a six-story building on Avenida Infante D. Henrique at the center of the ocean drive. Most offices have a beautiful view of the harbor. The Consulate has a large consular section, an AID liaison office, and a commercial reading room. Telephone numbers are 22216, 17, 18.

Office hours are 8:30 am–5:30 pm, with a skeleton staff remaining on duty during lunch hour (12:30 pm–1:30 pm). Telephone numbers for American officers are posted at the Consulate entrance when the Consulate is closed. An automatic telephone answering service is being installed and will provide the duty officer's telephone number during off-duty hours.

The present staff consists of 3 Americans—a principal officer, 2 consular officers—and 11 Foreign Service national employees. AID is represented by a national employee liaison officer and a secretary.

Housing

Permanent Housing

Government-leased quarters are provided for the principal officer in Ponta Delgada, near town and within walking distance of the Consulate. The residence is an attractively furnished, modern, four-bedroom home with a small garden. Although the house is not centrally heated, sufficient electric heaters keep it cozy. The residence is fully furnished with china, crystal, and kitchenware. Some bed and bath linens are furnished.

The government leases two 3-bedroom ocean-view apartments in a modern building a few doors away from the Consulate for consular officers. Rugs, draperies, washers, dryers, stoves, and refrigerators, as well as attractive government furniture, are provided.

Utilities and Equipment

Electric current is not dependable, and frequent outages occur. Bring transformers to adjust your personal appliances to the 220v, 50-cycle, 3-phase current. Most American appliances for 110v, 60-cycle,

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AC, if fitted with appropriate voltage transformers, will operate satisfactorily. Neither electric timing devices nor American TV sets will operate here. Most apartments and residences have low water pressure.

Food

Although seasonal shortages of fruits and vegetables on local markets do occur, pouch runs to Lajes Field provide opportunities to shop in the base commissary for US fruits and vegetables. In winter, the local vegetable market is restricted largely to potatoes, carrots, turnips, cabbage, and collard greens. Available fruits, usually imported from Lisbon, include apples, pears, tangerines, oranges, and lemons. Bananas and delicious hothouse pineapples are grown locally.

Fresh fish is available year round except during bad weather and heavy seas. Although lobster is expensive, a few other indigenous shellfish are reasonably priced.

Meat cuts offered by local butchers differ from US cuts. Fresh beef, pork, liver, and kidneys are available. Portuguese hams, chickens, and turkeys are excellent but expensive.

Pasteurized milk and good bread and pastries are readily available. Azorean cheeses are outstanding, and several excellent varieties are made in Sao Miguel.

Small supermarkets are found in Ponta Delgada.

Local vineyards provide an ample supply of wines. Tea grown at the higher elevations is excellent.

Bring a supply of baby food in your luggage as the assortment here is limited, expensive, and sold only in pharmacies.

Clothing

Temperate clothing is suitable most of the year. Light-weight tropical garments can be worn only a short time in summer. A topcoat, a zip-lined raincoat, boots, and an umbrella are useful for the rainy, cold winters. Sweaters, flannel pajamas, and wool robes are necessities for winter. Lightweight winter clothing, appropriate for centrally heated US buildings, is not adequate for unheated buildings in the Azores. Dress is conservative but becoming informal.

Women's dress tends toward the conservative. Dressy suits or simple, well-cut afternoon dresses are the rule for cocktails and informal dinners on Sao Miguel. Long dresses, although seldom worn, are needed for formal affairs at Lajes Field. An evening wrap is necessary. Local women wear fur stoles for winter evening affairs. The Lajes PX has a limited selection of ready-to-wear apparel. Some imported clothing is locally available. Dressmakers are reasonably priced but difficult to find.

Supplies and Services

Supplies

Lajes AFB Exchange stocks American tobacco products, cosmetics, toiletries, liquor, household cleaning items, linens, some materials, greeting cards, ribbon, paper, sports equipment, and film. Film processing is sent out from there. Local Christmas cards are expensive and in short supply. However, good values can be found at Lajes Field.

The exchange has a limited shoe department. Shoes can be ordered through the APO. Attractive women's shoes in European sizes are sold locally. Bring children's orthopedic shoes.

Shoe repairs are reasonably priced. Local drycleaning is expensive, rough on clothes, and unreliable. However, drycleaning can be done at Lajes at reasonable prices. One-day service is available and used frequently by American Consulate personnel. Laundry is done at home or can be sent out.

Local hairdressers are satisfactory and reasonably priced, though time consuming. Men's haircuts are satisfactory and inexpensive.

Several electrical firms do simple installations and small appliance repairs. Carpenters do good construction and repairs if carefully supervised.

All maintenance services are difficult to obtain and unreliable. Cockroaches and termites are endemic. Since professional pest control is nonexistent, bring pest-control materials.

Mail comes either from Lisbon or Lajes Field. It is not unusual for a letter from the US to take 3–4 weeks to reach the Consulate.

Domestic Help

The principal officer has a cook, a housemaid, and a part-time gardener, none of whom live in. Live-in maids are difficult to find. Domestic help are entitled to severance pay which amounts to a month's wages and an extra month's pay at the end of the year. "Caixa de Previdencia e Abono de Familia," a medical assistance and old-age pension, must be paid each month for servants.

Religious Activities

Many Roman Catholic churches dot the island. The one synagogue is not open at present. Other denominations include Seventh-day Adventists and Mormons. All services are in Portuguese.

The most important religious event on Sao Miguel is the Santo Cristo Festival. Held in Ponta Delgada every year, it peaks on the fifth Sunday after Easter. The festival attracts many people from the other islands, as well as from the US and continental Portugal.

"Romeiros" (pilgrimages) during Lent, "Dancas dos Cadarcos" in Carnival time, the Holy Ghost celebrations in May and June, and "Carvalhadas" on June 29 are some of the most interesting festivals and pageants. On Sundays during summer, many small processions can be seen in the villages throughout the islands.

Education

Dependent Education

At Post. No schools offer instruction in English. Curriculums stress social sciences rather than mathematics and general sciences.

Away From Post. Possible solutions for those who do not wish to enroll their children in Portuguese schools are leaving children in the US, placing them in private schools, placing them in Department of Defense boarding schools in Europe, or arranging for them to attend the USAF dependent school at Lajes. Families with school-age children must work out a solution for themselves.

Dependents are eligible to enter Department of Defense schools on a space-available basis. They will not be accepted definitely until August 15 of each year when it is known if there is room. The high school at Lajes, which does not have boarding facilities, is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and is staffed by competent American teachers. Although small, the school has modern classrooms, laboratory facilities, and a wide choice of extracurricular activities, and compares

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favorably with a small US high school. The problem is finding a family at base with room that is willing to board a child during the school year.

Special Educational Opportunities

The University of the Azores has no special facilities for foreign students. Music lessons are available at the Conservatorio Nacional and are given there by private tutors. Ballet lessons also are available.

Post Orientation Program

The principal officer personally briefs new personnel on general conditions in the consular district and on specific job-related problems. Embassy Lisbon has prepared a summary review of social usage in Portugal that is recommended reading for newcomers. The Consulate has a post language program. FSI Portuguese- and French-language tapes are available for home use, and FSI-sponsored foreign language teachers are available to those whose language has not reached the S–3, R–3 level.

Recreation and Social Life

Sports

A beautiful golf course is located in the hills 28 miles from Ponta Delgada. The weather is usually cloudy, chilly, and windy, so bring a golfer's raincoat. Lajes also has an excellent golf course and, in addition, a golf shop with American goods.

Two private tennis courts and six public courts are being built near Ponta Delgada. They are expected to be completed in mid-1982. Lajes has tennis courts.

Sao Miguel has some fishing. Saltwater fish include perch, carp, bluefish, amberjack, tuna, and shark. Several world records have been broken by local anglers.

Other popular sports include football, basketball, volleyball, hockey (these are practiced in rudimentary and often improvised localities), horseback riding, and ocean swimming.

Portuguese authorities limit the size of sporting rifles to 22 caliber and pistols to 32 caliber. It is possible to hunt for quail, ring doves, pigeons, and rabbits on Sundays for about 9 months of the year. The basic hunting license costs about $20. A trap shooting club, located about an hour's drive from Ponta Delgada, meets on weekends.

Touring and Outdoor Activities

A visit to the different islands is worthwhile, as each has a distinct personality and different customs, food, and even accent. Incredibly beautiful spots for picnics and camping exist everywhere. The islands are a photographer's and a hiker's paradise. Sao Miguel has beautiful lakes at the bottom of ancient craters at Sete Cidades, Fogo, Corvo, and Furnas. Streams such as the famous hot springs "Caldeiras" of Furnas are picturesque.

Because of the distance and lack of relatively inexpensive transportation, travel to the Continent is limited. However, a tour of the islands can be made by ship. The "Ponta Delgada" takes a week. The interisland airline SATA calls at seven of the islands and is the usual mode of travel. Pico, Faial, Terceira, and Sao Miguel all have at least one excellent hotel. Flores has a hotel located on the French military base and outsiders may be accommodated when space is available. The other islands have only small pensions without private baths.

Lajes has bowling alleys, and American Consulate personnel may stay at the officer's quarters for $4 a night.

For a nominal fee you may join the local yacht club, which has swimming meets and sailboats for member use. Limited facilities are available for lessons in sailing and horseback riding.

Organized activities for young children depend on the parents' initiative. Despite a shortage of leaders, Ponta Delgada has Scout troops for boys and girls.

Entertainment

Ponta Delgada has four regular motion picture theaters of which two are of American standards. The films are predominantly American, English, French, Italian, Spanish, and German. Soundtracks are not dubbed, but Portuguese subtitles are used.

An interesting museum displays paintings, sculptures, and artisans' crafts. The University of Azores at Ponta Delgada sponsors some concerts and conferences with foreign guests during winter.

Four discos are located in and around Ponta Delgada, and a few good restaurants and hotels serve continental food. All restaurants stop serving at 9:00 pm. Lajes Field serves American food.

Social Activities

Among Americans. Most entertaining is done in the home. Few Americans live here, except for socially inactive former emigrants who have returned to spend their retirement. Bridge and poker are popular.

International Contacts. No colonies of foreigners live in Azores, except for those on the small French base at Flores. The US has the only professional Consulate in the Azores; however, the consular corps includes a number of honorary consuls.

Social and professional contacts are limited to government and military officials and other professional and business people.

The Portuguese are friendly, and the ability to speak Portuguese is essential to conduct both social and business activities. Social life for singles is limited. Employment for spouses is confined to temporary work at the Consulate, English-language instruction at the university, and private tutoring.

Official Functions

Nature of Functions

Life in Ponta Delgada is quiet; social functions and usage are similar to other posts. On occasion the Ambassador or other high-ranking Embassy or US officials visit the Consulate. July 4th is the most important American holiday. The principal officer hosts about 300 guests at the annual reception.

New consular officers call on the Minister of the Republic, Regional Government President, the military commander of the Azores Forces, and other high government and military officials. Officers need 100 or more cards and about as many Mr. and Mrs. cards. Local printers engrave cards and invitations. Prices are reasonable.

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Notes For Travelers

Getting to the Post

Airfreight shipments take 5–6 days to arrive in Lisbon, depending on point of origin in the US, and about 3 days to clear customs. Surface shipments, including automobiles, take about 1 month's transit and are usually available for delivery about 15–30 days after arrival.

The Embassy provides a survival kit for newcomers. But, as one may not always be available, include in your airfreight such items as a few dishes, pots, pans, silverware, pillows, blankets, linens, and towels to use until household effects arrive.

Customs, Duties, and Passage

Customs and Duties

Exemption from customs fees and duties is limited to the Ambassador.

Lisbon. Official Americans are entitled to free entry of those personal and household effects forming part of their initial installation for 1 year after their arrival. This includes accompanied and unaccompanied baggage and automobiles. Subsequent shipments or importations brought to Portugal from abroad, including those made when returning from home leave, must be authorized by the Embassy in advance to obtain exemption from payment of duties. Address all shipments:

American Ambassador (employee's initials)
American Embassy
Lisbon, Portugal

Insurance is recommended against breakage and pilferage. Commercial storage is available in Lisbon. Local packers are good.

Ponta Delgada. If you are shipping household goods in liftvans or as unaccompanied baggage, send a list of the items to the nearest Portuguese consulate. An "atestado" (certificate of receipt) will be issued for a fee. The same must be done with animal health certificates. Address all outside containers as follows:

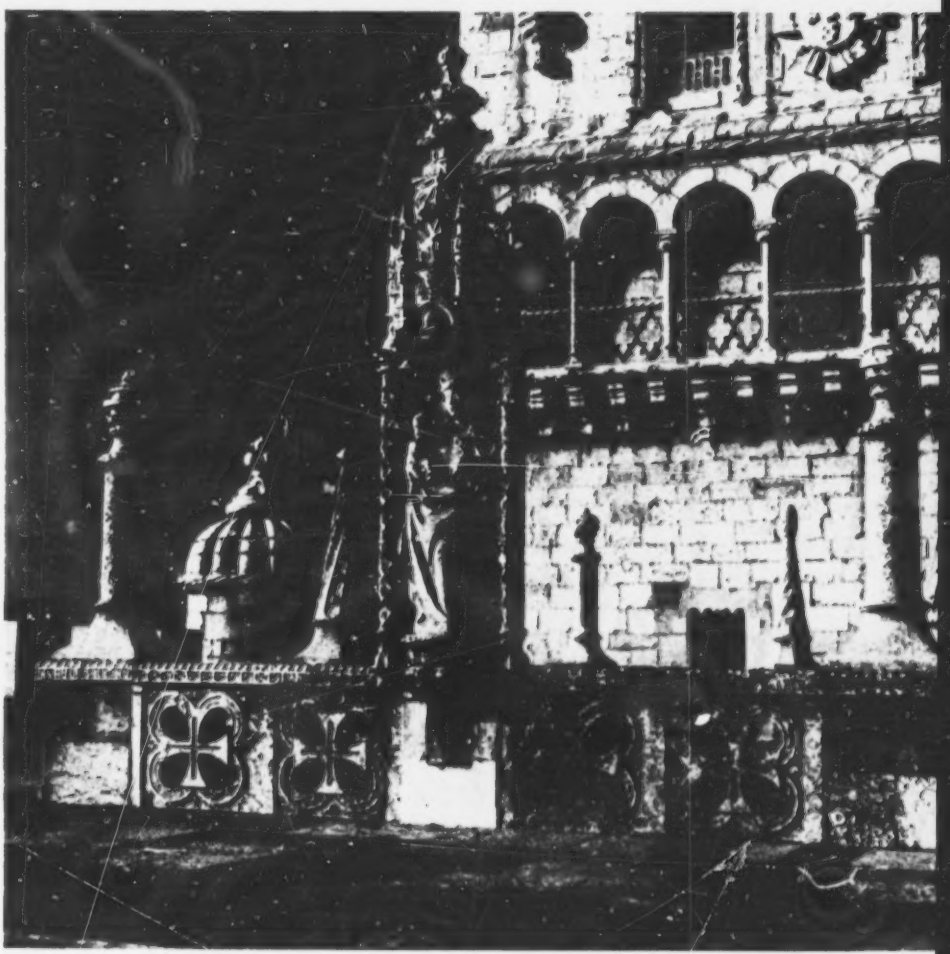
Name
c/o American Consulate
Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel
Acores, Portugal

Show gross and net weight if possible. Keep weights and sizes of liftvans within reasonable limits. The Consulate requires the usual bill of lading. Send it well in advance of the shipment's arrival. No commercial storage facilities are available in Ponta Delgada. Clearance through customs usually cannot be arranged until you arrive at post. No unusual risks are involved in sending shipments. Liftvans need plastic liners for waterproofing.

Persons arriving by car must have valid registration and proof of vehicle ownership. Inform the Embassy as far in advance as possible of make, model, serial and motor numbers, seating capacity, size of tires, and whether it has a radio.

Anyone may import a car and obtain Portuguese tags (i.e., nondiplomatic). Duty is payable on such automobiles and an import permit is required in advance of shipment.

Import duties on automobiles are calculated on original retail value, number of



Portuguese art has found expression in architecture, especially during the Manuelino period—the 1495–1521 reign of King Manuel. The Tower of Belem, pictured here, is a fine example of 16th century Manueline style.

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years the owner has had the car, weight of the automobile, and country of manufacture. The formula is extremely complex and no set percentage can be cited. The Embassy will attempt to provide specific information on the duty you may have to pay on a privately imported vehicle.

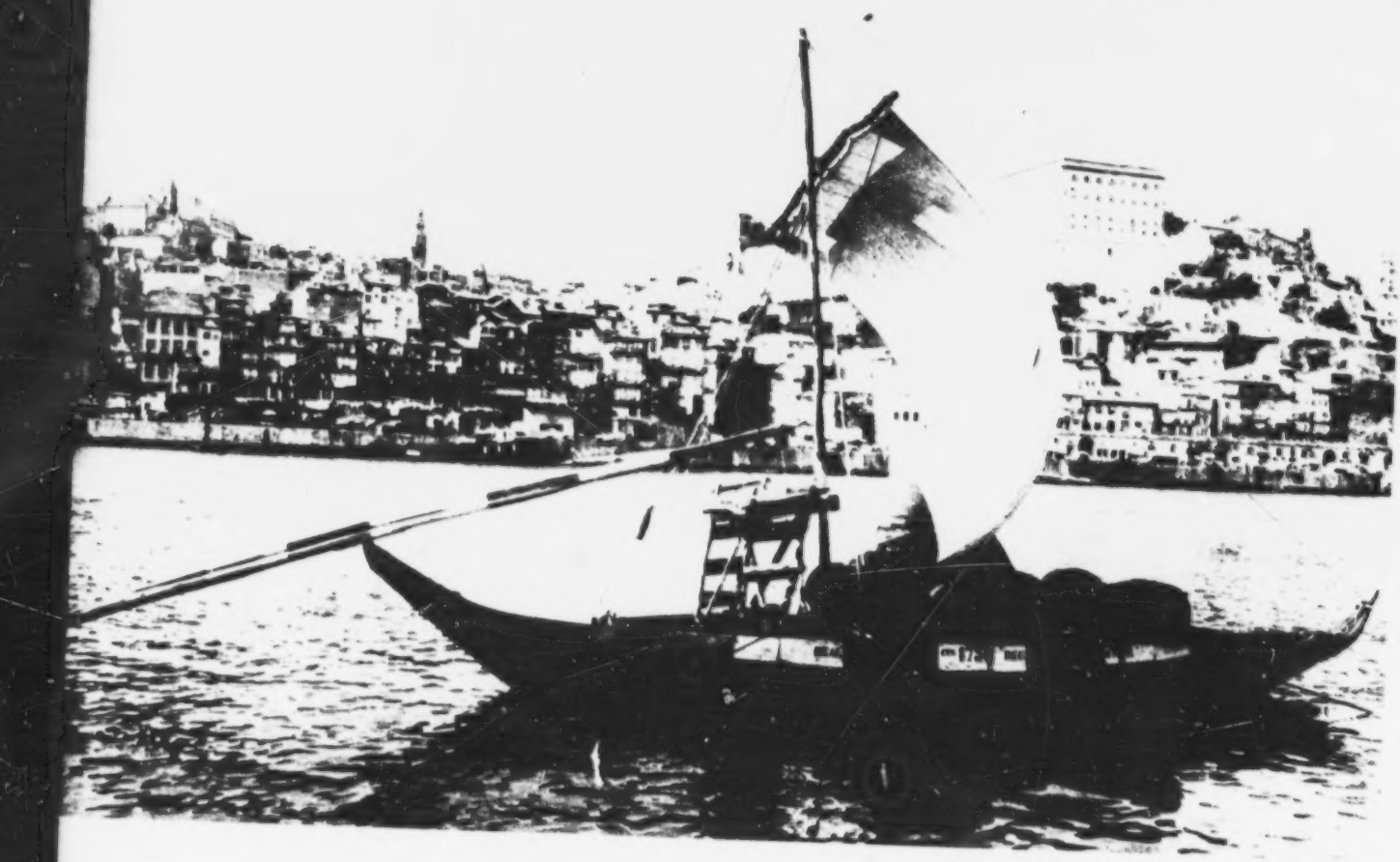
Personnel without diplomatic or consular titles are permitted free registration of a vehicle that is delivered within their first year at post. Such vehicles are registered with a number in the FM (Foreign Mission) series.

Passage

Accompanied baggage for all personnel is usually allowed to enter without customs inspection at the airport. At other points of entry baggage may be inspected.

Request a visa from the appropriate issuing authority. Some Portuguese embassies will issue a visa; others may indicate it is not necessary. If you do not have

Portugal exports sardines, anchovies, and tuna caught along its 500-mile coastline. Nazare, left, is on the coast north of Lisbon. Boats such as the one below transport Portugal's famous port wine on the Rio Douro, which empties into the Atlantic Ocean at Oporto.



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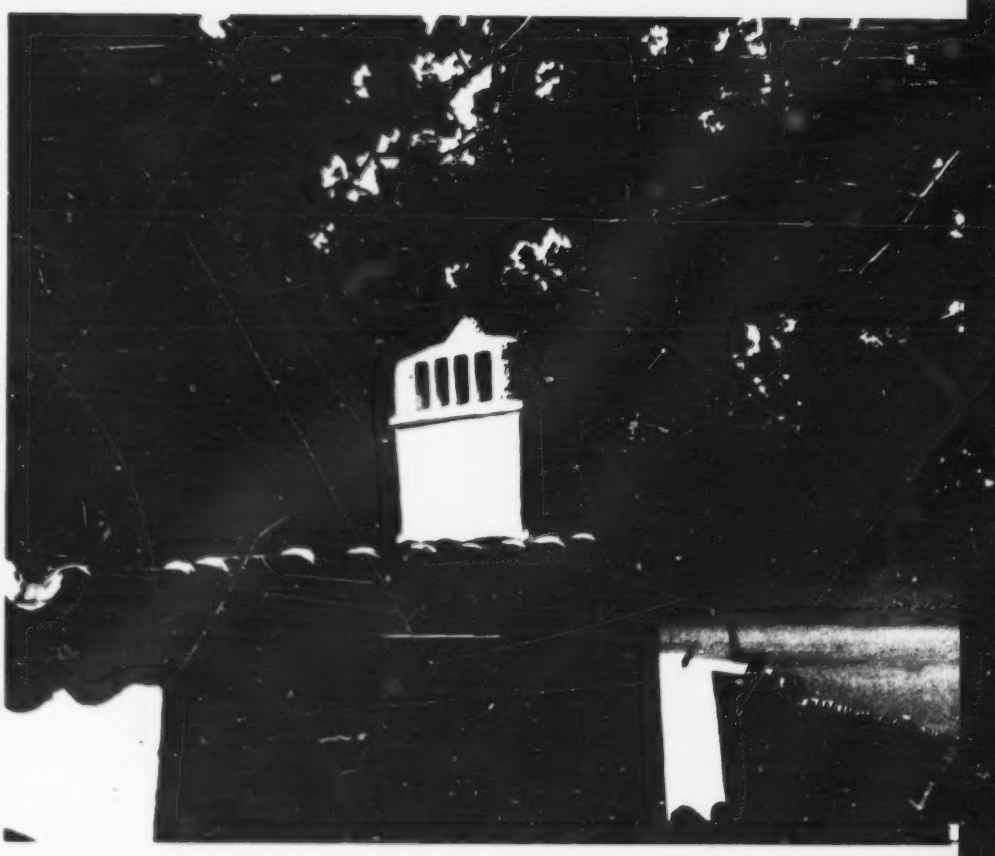
Some 30% of Portugal's area is cultivated with thousands of vineyards and olive, fig, and almond groves. Almond trees blossom in Algarve, above and right.



a visa, you will have a 60-day visitor's permit stamped on your passport on arrival. During this time the Embassy will obtain an official ID card from the Foreign Ministry. The ID card also serves as a resident permit.

Holders of diplomatic or official passports require Spanish visas for trips to Spain. Applications may be made after a new employee's arrival in Portugal.

No vaccinations are required for entry into Portugal. Check with the State Department's medical division or your present post for any requirement changes.

Pets

Pets are not subject to quarantine. Dogs must have vaccination certificates against rabies, and both dogs and cats need a certificate of good health. All certificates must be visaed by a Portuguese consular official before the pet arrives in Portugal.

Pets will be inspected by a veterinarian on arrival. In addition, the owner will have to pay clearances, customs broker fees, and other minor charges. Please inform the Embassy in advance if you are bringing a pet to post.

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The hustle and bustle of Oporto, Portugal's second largest city (above), is contrasted with Lisbon's quiet Alfama district (right).

Firearms and Ammu'tion

In accordance with Portugues[illegible] personally owned firearms not intended for resale may be imported, provided shipment and registration are accomplished in the following manner:

• Officers with diplomatic accreditation may import 1,000 rounds of ammunition and only the following types and quantities of nonautomatic firearms: one pistol or revolver, one rifle, and one shotgun. Importation of any firearms in excess of this number must have prior approval of the Ambassador. Firearms and ammunition are not subject to Portuguese importation and customs formalities. After firearms have arrived in the country, whether included in household goods shipment or shipped separately, they must be registered with appropriate Portuguese authorities. Registration is accomplished through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by presentation of full details and a description of all firearms imported.

• Members of the Mission without diplomatic accreditation may import the same types and quantities of firearms and ammunition as stated above. However, such importation is subject to Portuguese importation and customs formalities. Pack and ship them separately so they may be processed, cleared, and registered separately with appropriate Portuguese authorities. Do not include firearms in household goods or unaccompanied baggage shipments since they will delay clearance through customs. Give the post full details of separate firearm shipments as far in advance as possible. Include description of weapon (type, caliber, name of manufacturer, and serial number) and purpose for which the weapon is to be used (hunting, protection, etc.). After arrival at post, register firearms directly with the Public Safety Police Regional Commander. Firearms will remain in custody of customs officials until registration permits are issued by Regional Commanders.

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Currency, Banking, and Weights and Measures

No limitations are placed on dollars or travelers checks brought to Portugal; however, declaration at the point of entry is necessary to reexport foreign currency.

The monetary units are the centavo and escudo; 100 centavos equal 1 escudo. The symbol for escudo is $ and is placed between the escudos and the centavos in written amounts. Thus, 2.5 escudos is written 2$50. The 10 centavos coin is called a tostao. Small amounts are often spoken of in this term; i.e., 1$50 = 15 tostoes. Usually 1,000 escudos are called a conto. The current exchange rate (August 1982) is US $1 = Esc 83$7. Banco Credit Franco-Portugais provides banking service in the Embassy. The bank also accepts dollar instruments for immediate deposit in escudo accounts. Banks, as a rule, do not accept dollar instruments for immediate deposit. Personnel also have checking/savings accounts in other Portuguese banks.

Banks, hotels, and shops accept travelers checks. Some shops serving tourists accept personal US checks for goods sold. All major credit cards, US and European, are accepted by progressive shops in Portugal. Travelers checks may be purchased against Portuguese escudos in limited amounts. It is useful to have a supply of dollar currency on hand for use when traveling abroad.

In addition to exchange services provided by the Banco Credit Franco-Portugais, the Embassy provides exchange services for US Government personnel. Dollar currency is not always available. Maintain a US checking account for convenience in ordering goods from the US, for use at the APO, the commissary, and the PXs in Spain, where payment must be in dollar instruments.

Consulate employees can cash government or personal dollar checks for escudos at any of the many banks. Foreign currencies can be arranged in small amounts. Travelers and cashiers checks can be bought from some banks in amounts within specified limits.

Portugal uses the metric system of weights and measures.

Taxes, Exchange, and Sale of Property

Post regulations on sale of personal property including automobiles are made available to new arrivals. The seller is responsible for taxes and duties on resale of an automobile. Essentially, retention of profits on automobiles imported duty free is prohibited, and personnel are expected to act in accordance with both US and Portuguese laws governing goods imported under diplomatic privilege.

Queluz Palace is the former royal residence. Pictured here is its finely manicured garden.

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